THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION VOLUME 2, NUMBER 4 SEPTEMBER 1991

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WORKS IN PROGRESS

"And when you're poor, you grow up fast." Billie Holiday

Hensel Phelps
White Wash Plan For Olympia Exposed

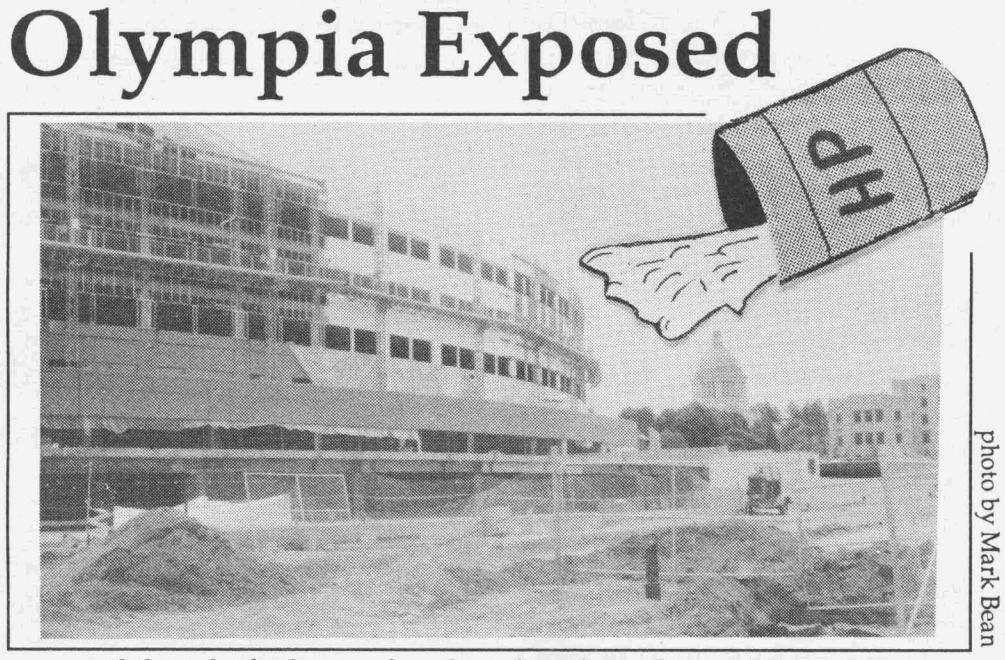

photo by Mark Bean

Mark Bean

When the community raised its collective voice last November about Hensel Phelps Construction Company's (HP) policies and practices against workers and this community, we were referring to the use of out-of-state workers, unsafe working conditions, workers right to freedom from discrimination of all kinds, and quality control. Over three hundred people crammed the General Administration Building auditorium in Olympia to collectively tell the state what the community thought of the selection of Phelps to build the $73 million Natural Resources Building. We changed the process the state will use to plan future construction in this area by acting together.

Phelps' solution to the anti-worker, anti-community charges is not to actually improve treatment and conditions for their employees, but to spend money to recreate a more positive "image" for themselves in this state. With this tactic of public relations versus community responsibility, the foul taste of profits over people should further sour all in this community who care about workers' rights and community responsibility. In response, the community must raise its voice again against this corporate construction firm from Colorado.

In documents obtained from this state's leading public relations firm, The Rockey Company of Bellevue, Washington, a plan "that will give positive visibility to Hensel Phelps in western Washington" was outlined to Hensel Phelps District Manager, Tom Schweiger. Schweiger's Northern California District office oversees the Natural Resources Building project on Jefferson Street. This plan, if implemented by Rockey, will undoubtedly cost Phelps plenty and is supposed to "counter the negative messages that have been communicated about the project".

The plan would include such tactics as direct mail marketing to developers in Washington (potential customers of Phelps), media tours of the NRB project in Olympia, ghost-written stories for NRB project manager Pete LeClair and Tom Schweiger that would be placed in the **Puget Sound Business Journal, Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce**, and other trade publications. Radio promotions with local stations would include "live" remote broadcasts from the job site on Jefferson Street.

The most amazing part of this plan describes developing a fund-raising event that would, of all things, create a haunted house at the unfinished NRB job site for children to go through on Halloween. Construction sites of Hensel Phelps have been proven to be dangerous enough for workers, let alone the children of this community. Rockey account executives feel this would "enhance Hensel's image as a good citizen". Ask the hundreds of local construction workers that Phelps gave the cold shoulder to when they wanted work on the project about HP being a good citizen. Good citizens give aid to the unfortunate in the community to raise the quality of life, not to cover up their lack of community responsibility.

Phelps will also have Rockey write a story for **Puget Sound Business Journal's** special edition called, "Woman, Inc." about Leah Willis, an HP foreperson on the NRB project. What is objectionable about this part of the plan is the false and misleading impression an article like this gives. In a memo from the president of Hensel Phelps, Jerry Morgensen, it was declared that the company is in danger of losing its ability to participate on government bids because they have hardly any women working for them. It is important to note also that Hensel Phelps was the big loser in a mid-1980 discrimination suit filed by Linda Romanovitch, a union carpenter from Seattle. In this case, Romanovitch accused Phelps of unwarranted firing and a policy that was a "pattern of sexual discrimination" to women carpenters and their male supporters on the King County Jail project. Seven other women carpenters who wanted to file charges could not, due to not meeting filing deadlines. Some women apprentice carpenters say they were driven from the trade due

(Continued back page)

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Winery Continues to Cork and Screw Farm Workers

Sheila Payne

Agricultural workers were the only classification of workers denied collective bargaining rights when the New Deal laws were enacted in the 30's. This is a wrong that all unions need to address. To the farm workers, collective bargaining is not some abstract term signifying power struggles between management and workers. There are no laws mandating that farm workers have a right to be represented by a union of their choice, no job security, no grievance process to address unsafe and unsanitary working conditions, Farm workers have the highest accident rate of all jobs, and are exposed to pesticides which the growers are under no obligation to identify for the workers. They are at the mercy of the growers and the labor contractors when they subvert L&I laws for their own benefit.

When one sector of the working class is exploited and under-represented it affects all working people. "An injury to one is an injury to all", is not just a cute brotherly phrase. It reflects the chain reaction of under-employed, underpaid workers with no voice that want YOUR job, undermining any solidarity between workers. As active union membership declines in this country, and respect for all workers' clout diminishes, businesses assume all of the power.

This article will address the long standing labor dispute between Stimson Lane/Chateau Ste Michelle (CSM) and the United Farm Workers Of Wash. State (UFWWS).

(Continued back page)

"I would rather have Chateau Ste Michelle go broke than recognize farm workers' right to organize.' Allen C. Shoup, Pres. of Ste Michelle

Thurston County Rainbow Coalition Page 5

F.I.S.T. Women/ Thelma & Louise Page 6,7

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The New USSR: A Threat to Capitalism Page 9

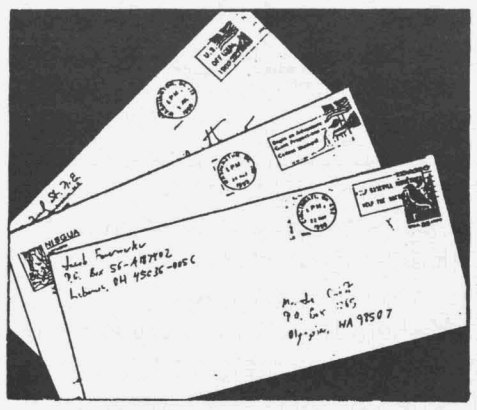
Dave Jette On Canadian Socialism Page 10

Ron Jacobs On Education Page 11

Boycott And Matt Love Page 12

Candidate Election (Sept. 17) Reviews Pages 13-15

Letters



Women's Work In The Area

Women's Work is a new monthly literary journal based out of southwest Washington state. Women's Work seeks to explore new directions in contemporary culture, while examining the origins of the traditional social structures that have shaped modern society. Women's Work was established as a forum for multicultural and gender oriented perspectives and to facilitate alternative expressions through writing. Our content addresses, but is not limited to, the arts, media, literature, language, mythology and social issues, through non-fiction, fiction, and poetry.

Guidelines for submission:

Manuscripts must be typed and double spaced for editing purposes; stamped, self-addressed envelopes must accompany all submissions; writer's name and address should appear in upper right hand corner of each page to insure proper identification.

At this time payment is in copies only. Submissions are usually acknowledged in 3-4 weeks. Material will appear 1-2 issues after acceptance.

Subscriptions are $7 for a year.

Address correspondence and subscriptions to:

Women's Work
Andrea Damm, editor
544 Broadway W.
Montesano, WA 98563

See page 6 for a sample.

Unusual Books For Sale

At the Pacific Northwest Writers Conference in July, a participant at a workshop on self-publishing told me about a seller of unusual books. "They will publish your books on the history and structure of taxes," she said. "Nothing is too weird for them"

Later she called to give me their address. "Order their catalog," she urged. "You'll be amazed at the books they sell." How could I resist?

Since W.I.P.s readers might be interested, I will share. Though I found no books on understanding taxes, I did find some on tax avoidance, privacy and hiding things, fake I.D.s, and the underground economy. Unusual books, to say the least, and mostly self-published I suspect. I still don't know if Loompanics Unlimited is a publisher or only a distributor.

The introduction reads: "Welcome to the Loompanics Book Catalog--The Best Book Catalog in the World. This catalog is an important source for anarchists, survivalists, iconoclasts, self-liberators, mercenaries, investigators, dropouts, researchers, and just about anyone interested in the strange, the useful, the arcane, the oddball, the unusual, the unique, and the diabolical.

"Herein you will find controversial and unusual books on a wide variety of subjects. Most of these books cannot be found in even the largest libraries. The majority of them will never be seen in bookstores... We know where we belong... We don't care about anything except your right to find out anything you want to know. Nothing is sacred to us, not even skepticism and self-reliance."

They are not overstating. Some books made me shudder (on self-defense, revenge, guns, guerrilla warfare, etc.). Others intrigue--on building houses of recycled materials, on increasing your intelligence, on nomadic living. I just might order a few, such as, International Investing, How to Buy Land Cheap, and The Eden Seekers Guide. The Whole Earth Catalog was the only title I recognized.

If anyone is interested, send $5 to Loompanics Unlimited, P.O. Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368.

My esoteric tax books may never be published, because, as a librarian told me, "No one needs to know." But, if I ever do, no doubt they'll be sold through Loompanics.

Sincerely, Meta Heller

Get Your FBI Files Here

On July 9, 1991, I wrote to the FBI in Olympia asking for release of any files they might have on my as provided for through the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts. I received a reply dated August 16, 1991. It states: "Please be advised that before we can commence processing for release [sic] any documents which may pertain to you, it will be necessary for you to submit your notarized signature. This procedure is designed to insure that documents are released only to an individual having a right of access to the information.... For your information, the Olympia office is within the Seattle Division, and maintains no independent records system. Sincerely, William D. Gore, Special Agent in Charge."

If you are interested in pursuing release of any files that the FBI may have on you through the Freedom of Information Act, you will need to write to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 915 2nd Ave, Room 710, Seattle, WA 98174. Be sure to include your full name, birthplace, birthdate and social security number and state that you are requesting the information as provided for through the Freedom of Information Act. Works in Progress will be interested in hearing results from anyone who does this.

- Tom Freeman

The Olympia Movement For Justice and Peace would like to invite everyone to our first forum of the fall. It will be **September 11th at 7:30 pm,** place to be determined. The topic will be **El Salvador, where justice and peace are still scarce.** Members of OMJAP are also coordinating the farmworkers' boycott. If you would like more information call **357-8346.**

COAST Pledge Walk Saturday

October 19,1991

State Capital Flagpole

Show your compassion for people in your community, men women, and children affected by HIV and AIDS, by participating in Western Washington Walks Against AIDS.

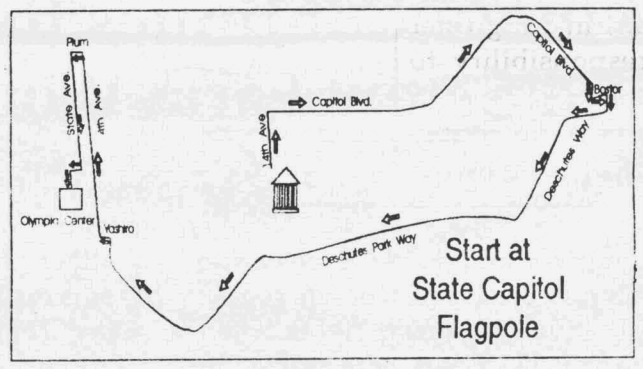
Without a cure or effective treatment, education is our only weapon against AIDS. And you can help to raise awareness of the problem by walking and gathering pledges or pledging or donating to COAST.

COAST (Columbia-Olympic AIDS Services Task Force) is a regional non-profit AIDS service organization with two major goals: 1) to raise funds locally to help meet the needs of persons affected by HIV disease in local communities; and 2) to provide support for local HIV/AIDS prevention, education and intervention programs.

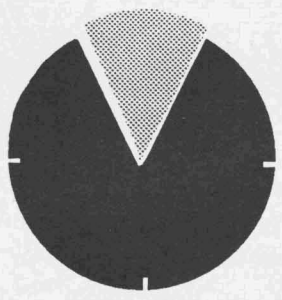
For your registration packet write to COAST 216 10th Ave. SE #B Olympia WA 98502

If you have any questions, please contact COAST at (206) 352-3664 or your local health department AIDS Program Coordinator.

Olympia 10K
State Capitol Flagpole
Registration: 8:30 Walk: 9:00



See you at the Walk!



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In The Works . . .

While this issue was coming together, I noticed an important theme running through most of the articles. This theme, mentioned only in passing in some articles, was concentrated on in others. The cover articles both state as a grievance, women's unjust treatment in the work place. On page 11, Ron Jacobs calls attention to the fact that among other prejudices inherent in our educational system, it teaches females to accept second class status. On page 6 Kathy Dockins describes the assault women endure daily in our male-centric society. And Andrea Damm gives a penetrating analysis of the movie *Thelma & Louise* as it pertains to the everyday life of women (page 7). On page 12, Zachary Lyons calls attention to the boycott of two Make-Up corporate giants because of their financial contributions to policies that do not guarantee women's safety.

All of this is not new of course. This theme has been running throughout history. And it's wrong and should be stopped! During the month of September, we should not only honor just our workers, but our women and our men in *all* aspects of their lives, because both of our gender roles suffer through rigid gender stereotyping. To fully live up to our potentials, we must have the freedom to do unfeminine and unmasculine things without fear. In this changing world we all need respect.

On page 8, Tom Connelly describes the views of a man immersed in this changing world. He is in the newly unified Germany; while Dave Jette explores Ontario's new socialism, Meta Heller voices concern over the Soviet Union's desire to join capitalism.

The world is indeed changing. Now is an important time to be active, to stand up and be counted, so as to insure that change is for the better. On the political homefront, Thurston County voting candidates are reviewed (Pages 13-15). Be sure to vote.

With many tears, WIP says goodbye to Tom Freeman and Sylvia Smith for a while. Active from the beginning of the paper, they find they need time off to recharge themselves. They won't be totally out of touch, and I hope they'll soon find their free time burdensome and return.

In the meantime, with much pleading, I ask anyone who is interested in helping out this volunteer-run paper to please contact me at 786-1468. We are always open for more input, be it for writing, editing, drawing, proofreading, or computer work. Please don't hesitate. It's easy and fun.

Since we are volunteer-run, we give of ourselves, we give to you. If you take this paper, please give back to us. Money is second only to your time in value to us. Help us out financially if you can.

Thanks - Pat Tassoni

Finding Solidarity Amist a New World Chaos

Cynicism and defeatism often plague and destroy organizations and movements seeking to agitate for social justice in the United States. Today, our political landscape is littered with yellow ribbons, anti-labor practices, and racism. In light of this, it is easy to throw up one's hands and say, "it's not worth it, the establishment is too powerful," or something similar.

This defeatism, while understandable, ignores our history. There have been repeated instances in both our distant and recent past where progressive community and labor coalitions forced significant and lasting reforms. For instance, the civil rights movement heroically dismantled legalized segregation in the South. The industrial labor movement rallied around the cry "eight hours for sleep, eight hours for work, eight hours for what will," to win the eight hour day. And in 1989, Virginia coal miners and their families created a successful community coalition that proved that working class people can still create organizations strong enough to challenge and defeat even the largest corporations.

In an effort to focus on successful social movements and to provide much needed inspiration to those currently interested in social change, a study group is being organized here in Olympia. We plan to meet monthly and to study articles or books on topics such as civil rights or labor and community coalitions. We hope to collectively discover useful information that will help us re-invigorate existing progressive organizations, or perhaps provide clues on how to build new ones.

Our first meeting will take place in mid to late September depending on the amount of people interested in meeting. For information call Paul Ortiz at 866-8018.

Earl Robinson Documentary

As we all know, Earl Robinson died in July. There is a documentary available about his life. Anyone interested in supporting the documentary can send a tax deductible check to Southwest Seattle Historical Society, c/o BJ Bullert, 3232 41st Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116.

VETERANS FOR PEACE

WANTS YOU!

We, having dutifully served our nation, do hereby affirm our greater responsibility to serve the cause of world peace.

To this end we will work, with others:

(a) Toward increasing public awareness of the costs of war;

(b) To restrain our government from intervening, overtly and covert, in the internal affairs of other nations;

(c) To end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons;

(d) to **ABOLISH WAR** as an instrument of international policy.

To achieve these goals, members of **Veterans For Peace** pledge to use non-violent means and to maintain an organization that is both democratic and open with the understanding that all members are trusted to act in the best interests of the group for the larger purpose of world peace.

We urge all veterans who share this vision to join us.

Veterans For Peace, Inc. National Headquarters: PO Box 3881, Portland, Maine 04104 (207) 797-2770

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Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the WIP Editorial Board.

Keep those letters and cards coming. Correspondence and articles are always welcome. If possible submit articles on disk (WordPerfect). WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions; so for editing purposes please enclose your phone number. Send submissions to Works in Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507.

Concert

to benefit PLU's Center for Peace, Justice and the Environment

The seven member Ronning family of Stanwood, Wa will perform a benefit concert at 7 pm, Friday, Sept. 6, in PLU's Chris Knutzen Hall, Tacoma, Wa.

Suggested donations for the concert are $10 for adults, $5 for students and seniors, and $20 for families. For more info call 535-7430.

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Now this is dedication!

It's important to give something back to your community. Some of us do this through Little League, and others choose PTA work. Bob Jacobs has worked on public policy for seventeen years. He has spoken at city council meetings and served on city advisory boards. He's doorbelled for candidates and causes. Now he wants to be your mayor.

Bob Jacobs for mayor

Sponsored by Bob Jacobs for mayor
720 Governor Stevens S.E, Olympia, WA 98501... Phone 352-1346

Gays Coming Out at the Top

Alexander Cockburn

I didn't much care for the theory and practice of outing when the subject first came up. This brusque wrenching of the closet door, albeit conducted by gay persons fired with high moral purpose, seemed kindred to similar sorts of door wrenching conducted by all the usual swine, fired with desire to invade individual privacy and make their victims writhe.

Over the past couple of weeks the issue has gone critical with the fuss about the outing of Pete Williams, the ranking Pentagon flack and longtime associate of Defense Secretary Dick Cheney.

Williams, formally known as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, came to the attention of Michelangelo Signorile, the Stormin' Norman of the outing crowd. Signorile used to write for the now defunct *Out Week* and took a slash-and-burn approach to outing. Gay men in Washington called him to say that on the one hand Williams was promulgating the propaganda of a Defense Department that persecutes gay people while on the other hand he was well known around town as a shirt-lifter.

So Signorile began to conduct an investigation-otherwise known as making lots of telephone calls in the course of which he talked to a couple of Williams's boyfriends—but *Out Week* went belly up before he could get the word out. *The Village Voice* decided against running the piece, and it finally ended up in *The Advocate*, accompanied by an editorial statement by the magazine's editor in chief, Richard Rouilard. Rouilard said that Williams's "silent complicity encourages the continuation of this vile and despotic activity" (the military's blanket exclusion of gay men and lesbians). "The U.S. military is awash in lies and hypocrisy. Williams is the proof that we are not perverts, liable to be blackmailed at every turn, incapable of containing our sexual urges when necessary [how does he know?]—all the stereotypical bullshit that is used to justify this purge of good soldiers. For much less than the very same activities Williams has been involved in, many of these soldiers have had their lives ruined."

So, concluded Rouilard, "We do not want to ruin Pete Williams's life. We are asking Pete Williams to confirm what is true: that he has security clearance on the highest level; that he is an excellent and effective spokesman; that he has the confidence of the President, the secretary of defense, and his co-workers; and that his sexuality has not interfered with his position. Except when he hides it."

I didn't find Rouilard's editorial particularly instructive and called up John Scagliotti, maker of the famous historical documentary *Before Stonewall*. What he didn't care for, John said, were the anti-outers who fostered the notion that homosexuality is something to be ashamed of, like those newspapers that would not print Jack Anderson's column reporting *The Advocate*'s story about Williams. The test for outing, John said, should be "Has the person benefited from being in the closet in careerist terms, in the sense of actively pretending to be something he or she is not? There's a difference between a passive closet, in which you simply survive and hope for the best, and the active closet, which involves putting on a heterosexual mask and promoting yourself as such, which is in ethical contradiction to your actual life. You've made the choice. You're living an actual lie, brining girls to the company ball and so on.

> ***One of the reasons straight people don't understand outing is that they don't understand what it's like to be gay.***

"So, think about a gay actor who has made the decision to advance his career by pretending to be heterosexual. But by doing that he is insulting and oppressing all those who are already out. Take Barry Diller, who is in a position of enormous power at Fox. Why doesn't he push for a gay and lesbian TV show, which I could produce, which would be a gay version of *In Living Color*? No, no one wants to out little people, gay teachers and so on unless gay teachers are publicly anti-gay —but I would out people who are gay and yet are promoting heterosexuality.

"I believe as a general proposition that people should come out. It would be better for them. But at the same time I understand that such a public coming out might hurt or confuse children, parents, etc. But just as there's a difference between being passively and actively in the closet, you can be actively or passively out. In the former case you are publicly espousing a cause, and in the latter, passive case, you are attempting; to live a gay or lesbian life within the limits of what's possible for you and not too hurtful to parents, children, etc. One of the reasons straight people don't understand outing is that they don't understand what it's like to be gay. It's all more complicated than they think."

Arguing against his paper's decision not to publish Williams's name, Richard Goldstein of *The Village Voice* said it certainly would have been O.K. in the fifties to out J. Edgar Hoover, Roy Cohn and Cardinal Spellman, or in the eighties to out Terry Dolan and other New Right crusaders. This raises the question, Should straights go into the outing business? I recounted to a gay friend of mine all the stories about a former Secretary of State, undoubted supporter of the repression and ghastly harassment of gays in the U.S. military, who'd supposedly had a boyfriend in London. (This was around the time that a former Secretary of Defense had a girlfriend in Oxford. Never were conferences at Ditchley more zealously attended.) So I asked my gay friend how he would feel if I went into the outing business. He said, a little stiffly, that he would rather it remained a gay concession.

Meanwhile the mainstream press has been resolutely inning Williams, attending but not reporting press conferences held by gay outers, writing and then killing stories about the whole Williams affair. There is something bizarre about the hyenas virtuously strapping on their muzzles, but not so surprising when you think about it, since the mainstream press thrives by exposes contrived on its terms and not the terms set by people like Signorile or Rouilard.

As always, the British press has demonstrated this truism with appalling clarity. My colleague Rich McKerrow reports from London that at the end of July a group calling itself Faggots Rooting Out Closet Sexuality (FROCS) announced it was going to plaster London with posters of prominent citizens, each adorned with the words "queer," "dyke," "homo," etc. The designated 200 outees were said to include a Member of Parliament from each party, several judges and well-known cops and at least one member of the royal family.

The British tabloid press rushed for the high ground, bellowing outrage at the proposed mass outing. Jean Rook, a columnist for the *Daily Express*, called members of FROCS a bunch of "mincing militants" and "ferocious faggots," a "limp-wristed army of insecure Wicked Fairies." (Apropos "mincing militants," it is worth remembering that the British papers spend much of their time denouncing and exposing members of Militant Tendency, a Trotskyist "entryist" grouping that has made strenuous and sometimes successful efforts to penetrate the lower portions of the Labor Party.)

The *Daily Mail* similarly denounced the outing campaign as despicable and vicious: "The decision about whether a homosexual wishes to go public should be private. To expose those who wish to keep their sexual orientations to themselves must in many cases be wantonly cruel." Back in 1976 the *Daily Mail* outed a Labor M.P. named Maureen Colquhoun by reporting that she had left her husband for a woman. Colquhoun duly confirmed she was a lesbian and three years later lost her seat in the House of Commons.

The Sun, owned by Barry Diller's boss, Rupert Murdoch, was also in the forefront of the FROCS-bashers, roaring that the FROCS have "no right to use other people's lives for their own warped political ends." In 1988 *The Sun* paid out £1 million as part of a libel settlement after suggesting that Elton John was involved with "vice boys."

Came the hour of the promised grand outing and the hacks mustered at a FROCS press conference, notebooks akimbo, 3 at which point FROCS said the whole thing was a hoax designed to expose Britain's "hysterical, homophobic media." Maybe so, maybe not. Rich says there is some indication that FROCS got panicked by the uproar. But whatever the original purpose, the point about the press was well made.

J. Edgar Hoover used the gossip columnist Walter Winchel; to out Commies. Gossip usually has a repressive function in the mainstream press, which is why outing has to remain a subterranean, countercultural activity. Yet even in the counter-culture, or at the level of the offbeat and unofficial, gossip always has the twin function of being liberating—letting the sunlight in—and repressive, in the sense of exposing the personal and the private, naming names and thus probably hurting people. Gossip represents visible fault lines at the social surface, reflecting subterranean, gradual shifts in our social attitudes. Although the liberating and repressive functions are both at work, given the structure of media ownership and control, the repressive function is usually dominant.

Outing, which itself is shifting from a kind of anarchic dada to something more responsible, has clearly changed consciousness. Williams's boss, Cheney, has been compelled to distance himself from traditional Pentagon policy toward gay people, something he certainly would not have done, or been pushed toward by the press, before Signorile began the journalistic exercise of outing Williams. This does not mean that the repressive aspect of the practice could not easily become dominant, as the mainstream press would dearly desire.

Footnote: Among the briefers during the Persian Gulf war was a Navy man from the Defense Intelligence Agency called David Harrington.

Jiggerypokery by Al Zimmerman

"YEA, TOMMY"
"YEA, TOMMY"
THE NEW ORDER'S SUPREME COURT OF NATURAL LAW
JUSTICE IS BLIND BLAND
NATURAL LAW
A. ZIMMERMAN '91
IN THE WEST THE RIGHT WING OF AMERICAN POLITICS TEARS DOWN THEIR SYMBOL OF OPPRESSION

Action for Initiative 120

Dan Taylor

For those of you who don't know Initiative 120, the pro-choice initiative, is on the ballot for November. To my understanding it will keep Roe v. Wade the law in Washington State, if Choice issues are brought back to the states. Well, there are a few people who are annoyed at this. And they are starting to come out of the woodwork. Let me share my story.

A few weeks ago while I was on my way to work (I work off of Lilly Road near where all the doctors' offices are), well any way, I saw something that surprised me. In front of one of the doctors' offices I saw a group of people holding up some signs. I thought it was some political thing so I took a closer look. The signs I saw were ones that I had seen before. One boldly said "Your Mother Let You Live." I became immediately sick. I went to work and told my boss about it. She was not very happy either.

We have to support the doctors who give women the choice of what to do with their bodies. All the laws (like I-120) will not make a difference if the doctors are intimidated out of making the choice available.

Twice a day for almost a week I passed those signs and the people who wielded them. I wanted to say or do something to get them to leave, but I am not a person who likes to start a fight, and I knew if I did do something, a (verbal) fight would probably result. I also don't like attacking people on something they truly believe in; I get annoyed when someone insults my beliefs and I try not to have any double standards. Then finally my boss gave me an idea. She was going to call and give the doctor support, and suggested I do the same (well it was more like she told me, but who wants to get technical). Now I wish to share this idea with you.

We have to support the doctors who give women the choice of what to do with their bodies. All the laws (like I-120) will not make a difference if the doctors are intimidated out of making the choice available. So my suggestions if you know a doctor who is being protested like in my story, get her or his name and get a few friends together and each of you give the doctor a call and tell who ever answers that you support the doctor. Quick and painless and I'm sure it will help.

Committee Meetings:

We currently have three committees doing business for us:

Issues/Endorsement: This committee is looking at the candidates for elected positions and needs to discuss what it will do for the November candidates. The meeting time will be set at the next General membership meeting. If you are interested call 456-4773 (ask for Dan) for more information.

Goals: This committee is looking at how to strengthen the TCRC. Its next meeting is September 3rd at 7:30 pm. If you are interested call 456-4773 (ask for Dan).

Forum: This committee will be planning a forum for candidates and initiatives sometime in October. If you are interested call 456-4773 (ask for Dan).

All meetings, committees and General Memberships are open to the public. If you feel the slightest bit interested, I urge you to come to a meeting and if it is to your liking, get involved.

During his tour as a naval attache in Moscow back at the start of the 1980s Harrington won first prize at the US./U.K. military attaches' drag ball, appearing in the humble vestments of a Russian maid. One U.S. military attache who witnessed Harrington's triumph says that he had had no idea how seriously some officers took the event. He merely borrowed his wife's nightdress. But others imported glorious costumery from Helsinki. On the big night a fleet of cars transported the gowned participants from their domestic quarters in central Moscow to a dacha on the outskirts. If the K.G.B. had been on its toes, the cold war might have gone the other way.

Thanks to Regina Costa we are able to reprint this with permission.

Rainbow Coalition Meeting Highlights - August 10, 1991

Issues Endorsement Committee report: The Issues Endorsement Committee received six replies to requests for candidate information. The candidates were each sent a copy of our Principles of Action and asked how they would incorporate the principles in their work if elected. Responses were received by Jeff Dickinson, and Andy Jackson for Port Commissioner; William Foster, Dave Skramstad, and Bob Jacobs for Olympia Mayor; Ramona Roberts for Yelm School Board. It was noted that no reply was received by Mayoral candidate Cora Pinson. The Endorsement Committee decided to met after examining the responses to decide what to do next. Any endorsements and candidate information will appear in the September issue of Works in Progress.

It was decided that the Saturday, September 14th meeting would be dedicated to the many Initiatives on the ballot. The Rainbow Coalition will sponsor a public forum where spokespersons for and against each initiative will be able to present their arguments and answer questions. The initiatives/referendums are: abortion rights, term limitations, Death with Dignity, roll-back elected official salaries, and tax rollback. For more information, call Dan Taylor at 456-4773.

What do we want for the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition? That question is being discussed by the ad-hoc committee which has identified four general areas that the Rainbow should focus on: 1) education; 2) progressive social action - civil liberties and rights; 3) political organizing; and 4) achieving a multicultural, multi-ethnic diverse organization and society. The committee is meeting further to define what is meant by those goals and how we can work to fulfill them. Peter Russell has obtained work planning sheets to help facilitate discussion.

It was suggested that expanding membership to include other groups can create problems if others bring own agendas into Rainbow. This was referred to the Ad-hoc committee for further discussion.

A committee was formed to plan the public forum. Dan Taylor will facilitate. The forum is tentatively scheduled for Koinonia Hall. The next meeting will be to determine TCRC endorsements of initiatives based on pro and con speakers.

TCRC needs a fundraiser. We need to further define what is "membership" in the organization. TCRC has become an organizational member of SPEECH which gives us access to their mailing permit and office space for WIP/TCRC meetings.

Just a Couple of Words About Our Next General Membership Meeting

First of all, because of a scheduling conflict our September 14th meeting cannot be at the First Christian Church. However, our unofficial room coordinator Evelyn Montague did a great job in finding a wonderful replacement. We're picking up and (for this meeting only) moving across the street to the Olympia Timberland Regional Library. Our special meeting is going to last from 12:30 to 3:30.

During this time we are going to have a short (1/2 hr) normal business meeting, then for the time we have remaining (2 1/2 hrs) we are going to have speakers discussing the initiatives that will be on the ballot for November 5. There will be one speaker pro and one speaker con. Each speaker on the initiative will have 5 minutes, then there will be a ten minute question and answer period for each initiative. This will be a very informative meeting so please come. (Remember Saturday, September 14, 12:30-3:30 Olympia Timberland Library)

SPECIAL NOTE TO MEMBERS OF TCRC PAST AND PRESENT: IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT IN A DONATION THIS YEAR, WON'T YOU PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY? JUST USE THE COUPON ON THIS PAGE. HELP KEEP TCRC ALIVE AND STRONG. THANK YOU.

- Tom Freeman, Co-coordinator, TCRC.

I AGREE WITH THE THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

A grassroots organization that works for the people the two political parties frequently ignore: peace activists, people of color, the differently-abled, union members, women, environmentalists, gays and lesbians, the homeless, the working poor, and other community people.

An organization that supports and encourages progressive electoral candidates. An organization that networks and works with others who have the same goals.

Join the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition and get involved.

Yes, I'm interested in joining the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition

❑ Enclosed is: $25; $10 low-income.

❑ Yes, I want to be involved in Rainbow activities. Give me a call.

(name)_____

(address)_____

(city)_____ (state)_____ (zip)_____

(work phone)_____ (home phone)_____

(issues of interest):_____

Send to: Thurston County Rainbow Coalition, P.O. Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507. For information call 943-1810 or 456-4773.

Women Building Strength

Kathy Dockins

I have never been attacked physically by a man. I have never been the victim of date rape. Therefore, it would seem logical to assume that I have never been sexually assaulted. Not true. As I found out at a self-defense workshop recently, every woman in this society has been sexually assaulted in one way or another. Some may not even be aware of it. Many forms of sexual assault are obvious: "stranger' rape, date rape, and incest are a few of the most obvious. But there are many more subtle forms of assault women experience every day. These include (but are not limited to): catcalls, stares (being "checked out"), and being followed too closely by a man or boy, whether you know him or not.

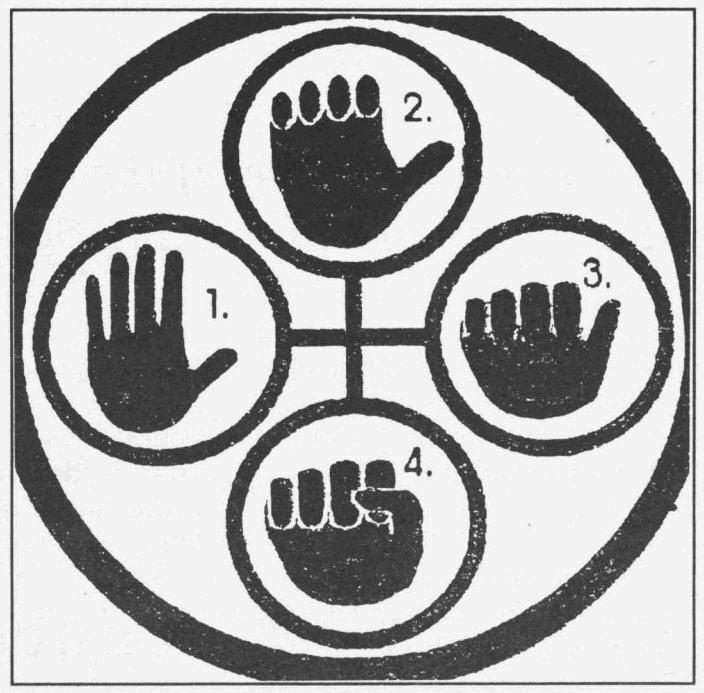
The reason these experiences are sexual assaults is because the perpetrator chooses women as his victims. He expects no resistance from them. This is understandable in a society that teaches women to be nice, to avoid making scenes, and that feelings of being threatened are "all in your head" and that defending yourself is "unfeminine."

The workshop I took, sponsored by FIST (Feminists In Selfdefense Training), exposed many myths about assault and taught me the most important thing about self-defense: Love yourself. You must believe you are worth defending, because you are. You have a right to defend yourself, and no one can take that right away, although people try to every day.

The workshop I took was only one day long, so we had to learn a lot in a short time. We focused a lot on verbal skills and "avoidance" procedures . We learned that it's okay to make a scene if you feel you're being threatened. If someone is staring at you, or touching you in a way that makes you feel uncomfortable, you have the right to say, "I don't like the way you're looking at me or touching me. Take your eyes/hands off of my body right now." If you're in a public place, saying this loudly usually stops the inappropriate action right away. As far as avoiding situations goes, walking down a different street if you feel uncomfortable is a form of self-defense, believe it or not. Often, it is okay for a guy to be looking at you or touching you. Knowing the difference is the first form of self-defense. The important thing is to trust your instinct. It's not "all in your head" as society would have you believe. If a situation feels weird, get out immediately.

"I don't like the way you're lookin g at me or touching me. Take your eyes/hands off of my body right now."

Sometimes getting out of a situation is not as easy as walking down a different street or telling someone to back off. This is where physical self-defense training comes in handy. We were taught that, despite popular belief, women are strong and that no matter how small you are, you have weapons all over your body that you carry with you all the time. By the same token, all attackers, no matter how big they are, have vulnerable spots all over their body. The physical part of the workshop taught us how to attack vulnerable spots on someone else while defending our own. The blows we learned are meant to incapacitate the attacker so the woman being attacked has a chance to run away. Incapacitation means anything from kicking kneecaps so the person can't run, to poking their eyes so they can't see, to hitting their windpipe so they can't breathe. The point is making it so you can run away and they can't run after you. If you feel you have really injured the person, you can always call an ambulance from somewhere safe. Whatever you do, don't stick around and allow them to hassle you more.



Keep in mind that whatever form of defense you choose, whether it's walking away, making a scene, physically confronting the person, or letting the person attack (yes, that's a form of defense!) that's the right choice for you in your situation. In different situations I would make different choices. I would rather someone stole my purse than beat me up, but I'd rather be cut or beaten than raped. If you make a choice that someone challenges later, don't let them intimidate you. Whatever choice you make, it's the right one.

Another thing the class covered is the undeniable fact that it's much simpler to say "no" to a stranger than it is to a friend, boyfriend, or husband. To deal with this, we did roleplaying scenes that were stranger-based, acquaintance-based, and best friend-based. The example they used was that if you don't say 'no" to someone because you don't want to hurt their feelings, something much worse than your feelings could get hurt. Also, it's hard to respect and love yourself if you're never assertive to anyone, even those who should understand your need to say no .

Although I've tried, there's no way I can cover self-defense in one page. I learned so much in six hours that I'm taking another two-day class in two months. There are also quarter long courses available that I plan on taking. I may even begin taking martial arts, but I'm glad I started with FIST. I recommend taking a self-defense class to every woman on the planet because it had such an enormous effect on my life.

To find a class designed specifically for women (as opposed to a martial arts class or something like that), contact your local women's center (hint: most colleges, community or otherwise, have women's centers. It's a good thing for mothers and daughters to do together, if you're into that. Fees for classes are often on a sliding scale, so your wallet won't be hit too hard. Besides, if $10 or more seems reasonable for an album (cassette, CD), you're certainly worth the same or more. I can't guarantee that it will change your life as much as it did mine, but I can guarantee that it will affect you in a most positively groovy way. Right on, sister.

Kathy Dockins is the Business Manager for KAOS radio.

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Thelma & Louise - The Real Story

Andrea Damm

It seems to be the universal experience women driving on an American highway to cringe at the sight of mud flaps emblazoned with mirrored silhouettes of the female form. We shudder, wondering at the intended statement projected by the display of such an image. To further obscure the issue, there is sometimes a women passenger seated placidly beside a typically orally fixated male driver. If I am profoundly disturbed by this prominent decorative accessory, what must be going through the mind of the driver's companion? Probably not much, I would have concluded not too long ago. Now I wonder if she's seen *Thelma and Louise*.

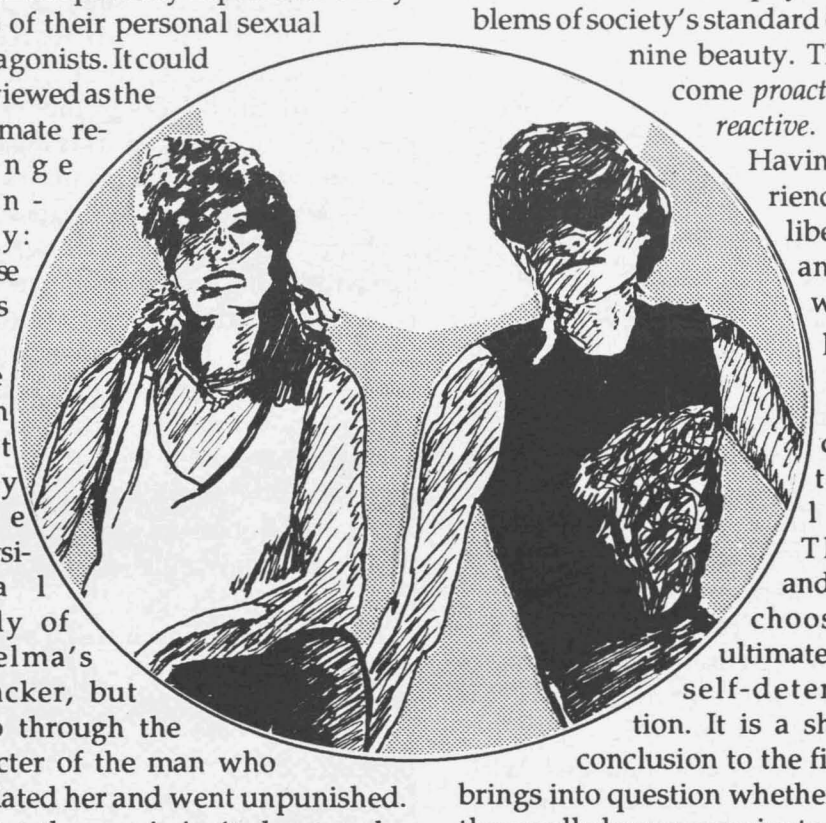
So what exactly is *Thelma and Louise* all about? To read the torrent of commentary accompanying its cinematic release earlier this summer, one would conclude it was inciting women to revolt in the streets castrating every unfortunate male caught off guard waiting for the bus, while holding up a few convenience stores for good measure. "Toxic feminism", one columnist has called it. Many men, and a few women, are not amused by the film's complex mix of social allegory and "cinematic farce", as another more perceptive reviewer tagged it. While absorbed in interpreting the film's portrayal of one dimensional *male* characters and *phallic* imagery, many commentators have lost sight of, or avoided altogether, the pervasive themes enacted through its female characters, Thelma and Louise.

The significance of sexual violence as the catalyst for Thelma and Louise's subsequent actions has been overlooked by the media, which have preferred to focus discussion on the more "outrageous" exploits that come later. The controversy does not address the fact that two women find themselves compelled to flee the perceived consequences of a crime that has been committed. But who committed the true crime? When Thelma refuses the advances of her dance partner in the parking lot, he responds by striking her and pinning her to his pickup truck, where he proceeds to forcibly open her legs and tear her underwear. Louise arrives upon the scene as he is about to rape Thelma, and is ignored when she tries to intervene. Only when she reveals the gun Thelma unwittingly packed in her suitcase does Louise receive a response to her demands.

. . . the movie isn't about male-bashing or glorified violence; it is about women experiencing power not through men, but on their own terms.

Thelma is released scornfully by her attacker, who continues to verbally assault the women. When the would-be rapist sneeringly taunts Louise with "suck my cock", visually the audience observes something click in Louise, and she pulls the trigger.

"Films never deal with the incredible amount of anger women feel about the victimization of their gender," T & L screenwriter Callie Khouri said in a recent **article** in *Glamour* magazine. When it becomes clear later in the movie that what we see "click" in Louise is an intense response to her own experience with rape, women in the audience also react. The presence of sexual violence in our society is an influence in all women's lives; its impact is even apparent in the cheers of women in the audience, for whom Thelma's assailant possibly represents every one of their personal sexual antagonists. It could be viewed as the ultimate revenge fantasy: Louise blows a hole through not only the physical body of Thelma's attacker, but also through the specter of the man who violated her and went unpunished.



But the movie isn't about male-bashing or glorified violence; it is about women experiencing power not through men, but on their own terms. The observation has been made in the recent past that the male "buddy movie" is a modem expression of Joseph Campbell's supposition of a universal hero's journey. If such a thing as a "heroine's journey" does indeed exist (and it does, according to author Maureen Murdock), then T & L could be construed as the cinematic interpretation of that experience. Thelma and Louise's quest for autonomy is an archetypal journey to feminine self-realization. In their lives as housewife and waitress, Thelma and Louise have acted according to fixed boundaries of social and sexual behavior imposed by a male based society, where a woman's identity is poured into a narrowly defined conception of female sexuality. As "outlaws", cast outside that order, they experience a kind of spiritual transformation, separating their identities as *women* from the restrictive roles imposed by a male centered system. Along the way, they shed their feminine frills, their carefully styled locks, their mascara -- the physical emblems of society's standard of feminine beauty. They become *proactive*, not *reactive*.

Having experienced that liberation, and faced with the prospect of surrendering to the law, Thelma and Louise choose the ultimate act of self-determination. It is a shocking conclusion to the film that brings into question whether or not they really have emancipated themselves, or if they have been consistently manipulated throughout the entire movie. Returning to lives governed by male rules, however, is simply not an option for them. The system will not allow them to survive outside it for long. By the finality of their action, they effectively turn their backs on the physical and psychological male-based institutions that await their return.

There won't be a sequel to *Thelma and Louise*. But the underlying themes addressed by it have provoked an interesting, if not telling, reaction in American women and men. So the next time I observe those notorious mud flaps passing me on the highway, I won't doubt so much the intelligence of the driver, or his passive travelling companion. Now I'll hope that they are on their way to see *Thelma and Louise*.

Andrea Damm is editor of Women's Work, and hopes you'll go see Thelma and Louise, too.

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German Unification According To Galuhn

Tom Connelly

Galuhn Claus-Peter is 38 years old. Married with one son, he was born and raised in Rostock, the capital of Mecklenburg, a former Eastern State of the divided Germany. Rostock is a popular destination for Swedes who take advantage of the short ferry ride to begin their vacation on the continent. It is also on the main road from Hamburg to Sassnitz, a popular resort spot on the Baltic Sea.

Galuhn (pronounced Ga-loon) is a bricklayer and is one of 125 of 235 workers kept on the job when his state run company was sold by the Treuhandgesellschaft to a Hamburg construction company. The Treuhand company is a gigantic holding company charged with selling off the "assets" of the omnipotent state controlled capital-octopus once known as the German Democratic Republic.

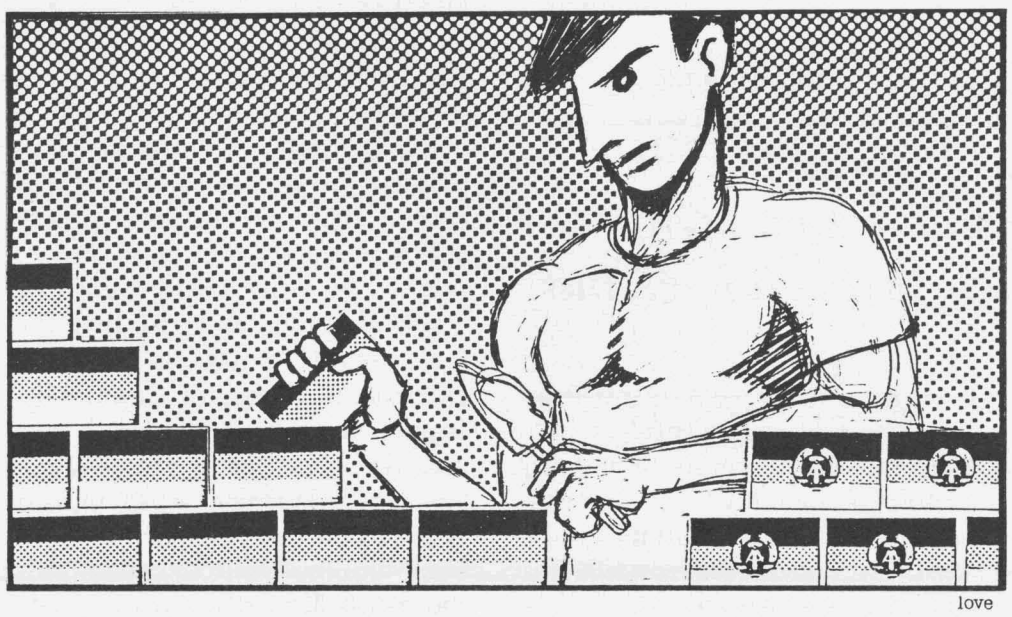
Our common interest in soccer brought us together in the T.V. room at a workers' hotel in the East Berlin section of Prenzlauer Berg on Storkower Street just off the Leninallee. Over two nights we chatted and watched the two top teams from the East match skills with teams from the West. F.C. Rostock and Dresden Dynamos have been selected to participate this season in the Bundesliga Division I; West Germany's premier professional soccer league. Galuhn's infectious enthusiasm for the hometown team quickly won me over to the side of the eastern underdogs.

Our conversation lasted beyond the 2-1 defeat of Rostock by Kaiserslautern, the decidedly superior side from the southwest and continued as a late night movie began. The final score was taken by Galuhn to be a moral victory for Rostock. He said it showed that given the vast difference in salaries paid to the players of the two teams (the Rostock side was technically an amateur team), the quality of the play displayed against a top Bundesliga team augured well for the upcoming season.

The late movie was surrealistic with a young leading character who possessed a set of special glasses that would convert any ordinary street scene into a kaleidoscopic landscape exploding with fantastic images and music. The bizarre movie stopped making sense early on but served well as a mysterious visual leitmotiv for what Galuhn had to tell about the rapid changes in his life 'seit der Wende'-since the change almost two years ago.

Galuhn considers himself very fortunate. He has a job that pays him nearly twice the salary (12DM/hr.) that he earned as a state employee. At first he had a lot to learn about the expectations of the boss. Instead of 40 or 42 hours a week, he now works close to 60 hours a week, and gets paid overtime for anything after 40. The tempo of the work is faster; there is little idleness permitted on the job and he has had to learn to work with new material and equipment. Despite the new demands and longer hours, he is planning for the future with some confidence.

In a few weeks he will start his first paid four week vacation by picking up a new Volkswagen Golf at the Wolfsberg factory. He has decided to keep his Trabant, one of two cars produced in East Germany by the state. He ordered his 'Trabby' at age 21 when he finished his tour of duty with the army and took delivery of it at age 33! He wanted me to guess how long he had to wait for the car and I replied that I supposed a few weeks sounded reasonable, as with his new Volkswagen. He explained that in the East it was a normal situation to wait 12 years for the delivery of the family car.



love

Galuhn indicated that the first noticeable difference in daily life since the change had to do with basic service. In East Germany people waited or went without. When he took delivery of his 'Trabby', he put 6,000 miles on it and the motor was kaputt. Four months and 1500 marks later he got his car back. Complaints fell on deaf ears and in fact only made the situation worse.

A dramatic rise in the cost of living is a second immediate result of unification. Although he now makes more money, prices have kept pace. Here again having a job makes a big difference. This October his rent will nearly double, going from 265 marks to 500 marks. Utilities are also going up. On August 1, 1991 ticket prices for public transportation in East Berlin will close the gap with West Berlin (the two systems remain separate companies). The price increase will leap from a paltry 20 pfennig to one Mark and 70 pfennig; a great leap forward resulting in long lines at subway stations and the central transit office on Alexaderplatz in East Berlin.

A third dramatic change in the landscape of the East is massive unemployment. Nearly half of the workers were let go where Galuhn works when a Hamburg company purchased the company from the Treuhand. Fully one half of the work force is now unemployed in East Germany. Those losing jobs received 68 per cent of their previous wages for one year. This program has recently been continued.

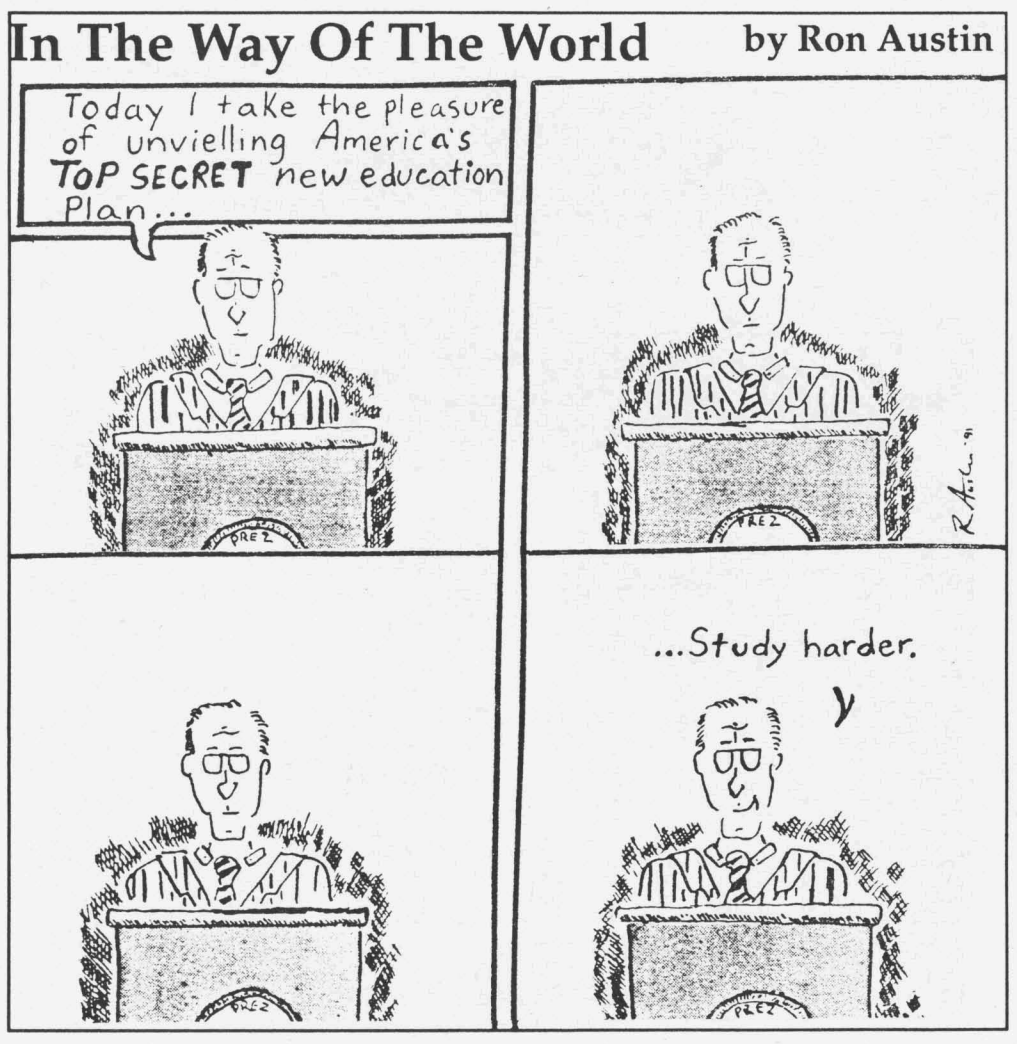
Galuhn sees the rapid unification process championed by Chancellor Kohl as a stroke of genius. There are many who question its wisdom.

At the time of the currency union in March 1990 the Bonn government exchanged 'hard' West German marks at a one to one rate up to 12,000 marks, then the rate was one West German mark for two East German marks. Galuhn sees the rapid unification process championed by Chancellor Kohl as a stroke of genius. There are many who question its wisdom.

Galuhn expressed no regrets about the demise of the old regime. Nearly all his relatives have been living for years in the West and this is a direct result of their dissatisfaction with life in the East. The quality of life in the East before the change was based on the ability to influence the authorities. If one had a large circle of relatives and friends in important places things happened and improvements were readily available.

After picking up his new car, Galuhn will drive it to his home in Greifswald east of Rostock. There he plans to spend time with his family, putt around the house and relax until it is time to return to work from his first ever four week paid vacation.

Tom Connelly is an Olympia resident and frequent European traveler. He concluded his Masters degree program in German literature this summer by attending the Pasdagogische Akademie in Klagenfurt, Austria. He is currently for hire as a High school teacher and wrestling coach.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Communism's Tranformation:

A Threat to Capitalistic System

Meta Heller

If you've had the feeling the Group of Seven Nation leaders were cautiously polite to President Mikhail Gorbachev, but leery of something not being state, you are right. The behind the scene stand-off concerns property rights in land.

Private monopoly ownership of land has evolved a set of taxes for funding government and controlling people. A public monopoly ownership of land appears to dictate another way. Economists are calling it "a rational economic approach". The capitalist set of taxes we know to be oppressive (a common bad). The new way would be liberating (a common good)(.

Ideologically and practically, eastern bloc countries cannot do what capitalist are demanding of them: become like us. If these countries privatize land--sell it off, slowly or quickly--the richest people in the world would buy as much as they could. Any form of socialism would be doomed.

If eastern bloc countries keep land in public ownership, leasing parcels for use by individual managers, each of whom would determine the use and bid for the privilege of exclusive use, socialism could flourish. Under this new form of socialism, only buildings and enterprises would be privatized. Only man-made products (buildings and businesses) would become personal property of owners--not the underlying land, a gift of nature.

Private ownership of land in capitalistic countries has brought about a perverse system of taxes. Since all capitalistic countries tax the use-value of land at very low rates, or not at all, they tax everything else heavily: incomes, wages, profits, sales, and capital (building, equipment, etc)--leaving loopholes for themselves, of course.

Collecting the use-value, rental-value of land that is publicly owned can provide enough revenue for all governmental goods and public services at all levels of government--national, republic, and municipal. Individual initiative and social welfare can flourish in such a mixed-market economy. There would be no need for the perverse capitalistic taxes that oppress everyone else.

In capitalistic countries, where most land becomes the monopoly of private owners, a landowner collects all the rent of land from the land-user as personal income, except for a very small amount levied by government against the value of land as an annual tax.

Many countries, including the U.S., levy the same rate against the value of buildings as against the value of land, the so-called property tax on real estate. But a charge against improvements is a tax upon capital. Only land and its natural resources, natures' free gift to us all, yields rent. Rent, by definition, is a charge for the use of land. Land, in the broadest sense, includes all natural resources-soil, water, oil, gas, coal, minerals, native vegetation, animals, fish, etc.

Land and improvements should never be taxed as though they were the same, because the effects are quite different.

The differences have been recognized since Roman times. Blurring the distinctions, however, generates confusion which confers an advantage to the privileged.

One definition of "perverse" is "the wrong way". All forms of capitalistic taxes, except against land, suppress initiative, make savings difficult, despoil natural resources to the point of unsustainability, and increase the number of poor and homeless. They are the wrong way. But, from experience, you knew this all along!

Over 200 years ago, the guru of capitalism, Adam Smith, wrote that the most effective tax should impose the least pain on the producers of wealth, should be cheap to collect, and should conform to people's sense of fairness. He also identified the one tax "peculiar" to satisfying all these criteria was a tax on the unimproved value of land.

Thus the communists real challenge to capitalists today is to demonstrate a new tax system, one based ont eh criteria of Adam Smith.

Ownership patterns in a few countries indicate the threat to the richest if the East demonstrates the significance for the common good of socializing rent. Some commonly quoted statistics are in Great Britain 1% of the people own 90% of the land, in the U.S. 3% of the richest own 95% of the privately-owned land, and in West Germany 20% own 90% of the land. The rental value of land in each of these countries is enormous, estimated to be approximately one-fourth to one-third of national income. thus the pot to be tapped for "new revenue" from the richest people is large indeed. Taxes for the common bad would be exposed for what they are.

The way it has been in communistic countries, however, does not make demonstration of socializing rent easy. The Soviet people are suspicious of government-owned anything. They fear loss of individual liberties and personal freedom. Nor do they understand rent, which by definition is a charge for the use of land. For 70 years all land was publicly held and no one paid attention to rent. Even the term is foreign.

. . . in Great Britain 1% of the people own 90% of the land, in the U.S. 3% of the richest own 95% of the privately-owned land, and in West Germany 20% own 90% of the land.

True, in the Communist Manifesto of 1847, Karl Marx did recommend rent be tapped for public revenue. However, after a short experiment following the 1917 Revolution, the use of land was conferred as a free gift to users. Other taxes were instituted to sustain government. Rent (use-value) was not calculated in the costs of goods (pricing) nor services--not even for the value of buildings and improvements. Rent was ignored.

Besides land, the state owned all "means of production". It attempted to conduct both production and exchange by some fifteen departments of government. As we and they know, what happened was widespread inefficiency, gross shortages of consumer goods, and the creation of a privileged class, not based on landownership as in capitalistic countries, but on Communist Party membership and official status.

Except for black marketeers, few Soviets have accumulated much personal wealth. The average worker earns 290 rubles a week, about $2.40 at the black market rate of exchange, but many of their needs are subsidized such as residence, food, health care, etc. Gorbachev's salary is approximated twelve times that of a worker, about $150 a month, but he and party elite receive most needs free.

Soviet land cannot be sold to its people because almost no one has money to buy it, nor is it legal to sell land. Further, without cash no one can buy into cooperative businesses or set up one of their own, except the very smallest. Barter is thriving. Private enterprises, private cooperatives, and state joint cooperatives are now legal but leasing is the only practical way for most to gain access to "means of production". Progress is also slow because some government bodies refuse to lease shares in their enterprises to employees or other users.

Gorbachev's twin aims are to synthesize private enterprise with the social ownership of land. There is no unanimity on this score because of the confusion over creating markets and the rental value of land. some sort of land auction systems must be devised. For example, if the government offered specific plots of farmland to any individuals who would use them. just one spirited individual could start the bidding process; others would follow. The highest bidder for any particular plot would establish the market value for that piece (on a per-acre basis) and all other land of comparable quality in the vicinity. Thus at one stroke, the market itself would be established by providing a supply of land for use by leasees, and the value of comparable sites would fall into place. One suggestion is that each ministry auction off a minimum of 5% of its land.

"The ice is breaking," Gorbachev told the G-7 summit participants in mid-July. "We will become a part of this economic space." When privatizing land is not part of his plan, capitalists shudder; they enjoy their privileges.

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During August's Candidate's Night, Local 443 endorsed the following individuals for public office. We enthusiastically recommend that you support them on Primary Election Day, Tuesday, September 17. Polls open at 7 am.

City of Olympia Mayor: Bob Jacobs
Olympia City Council Position II: Mary Lux
Olympia City Council Position III: Mark Foutch
Port of Olympia Commissioner: Jeff Dickinson
Tumwater City Council Position II: Peter Kmet
Olympia School District Director: Chris Hedrick
North Thurston School District Director: Bill Williams
Griffin School District: Nick W. Bond
Centralia School District: John B. Nesset

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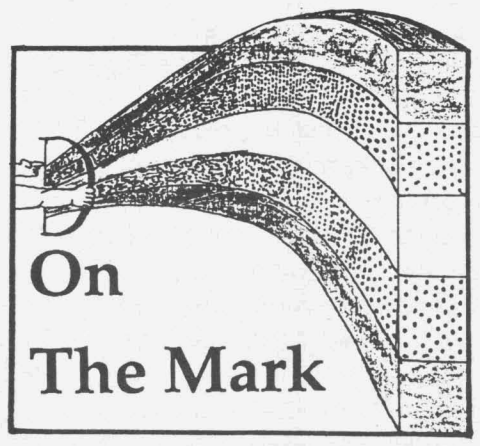


"SOCIALISM" COMES TO POWER IN CANADA!

Dave Jette

You wouldn't have known it from our mass media, but a "socialist" government came to power last September in Ontario, Canada's most populous province. The New Democratic Party (NDP) won the provincial election, as it had done in the past in most of the provinces of western Canada. What is so significant about this electoral victory, however, is that Ontario constitutes the industrial heartland of Canada, producing over half of its Gross National Product.

The NDP is a broad-based social democratic party: it espouses the rhetoric of socialism, but its purpose is to make capitalism less barbaric rather than to replace it with genuine working-class control of society. Social democracy in fact serves the interests of the coordinator class, as we have already discussed in this column. (Please see in particular last December's column.) Thus the NDP's politics are progressive and populist, just as Jesse Jackson's are (in a much more conservative setting).

The NDP's electoral success in Ontario constitutes a significant reversal of the rightward political momentum of the 1980's. Even though its "socialism" is hollow, this social democratic party poses an ideological threat to the capitalists of Canada and the United States, and the reaction of our own mass media has been to ignore this departure from what is supposed to happen. For example, the New York Times didn't even mention the NDP's victory until nearly a month after it happened - it presumably was too busy reporting on the masses' rejection of "socialism" in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

In this column we shall have a look at the NDP and their surprising electoral victory in Ontario, and then draw some conclusions for building a progressive third party in our own country. Our reference here is an article by Elaine Bernard in the Summer 1991 issue of New Politics, entitled "Lessons for Americans: The NDP Victory in Ontario". (Ms. Bernard is Director of the Trade Union Program at Harvard University, a long-time activist and past President of the British Columbia NDP.)

The new government was elected as a result of years of diligent work by thousands of community-based activists who risked being marginalized by building a "third party".

The NDP Victory in Ontario

Elections in Canada and the U.S. are similar in that they are "winner-take-all". There is no proportional representation for political parties as there is in most of Western Europe, which tends to discourage third parties and impel the major parties toward the political center. One important difference, however, is that in Canada the government's executive function is headed by the leader of the party ("Prime Minister") which has won a legislative majority (and who herself/himself must have won a seat in the legislature, along with all the members of her/his Cabinet). Our own system, with a separate executive branch headed by a President elected at large, is much more conservative in funneling politics into the political center (which in turn is largely defined by the mass media in the interests of the capitalists).

A major factor in the Ontario provincial elections was the recently adopted Free Trade Agreement between Canada and the U.S, which "moved Canadians toward a new receptivity to social democratic ideas and values" (in Elaine Bernard's words). As Bernard has pointed out, Free Trade has relinquished Canadian sovereignty on many economic matters and moved Canadian business toward economic integration with the U.S. while acting as a cover for yet another attack against universal social programs. In opposing the demands of the business agenda, a growing number of Canadians have demonstrated a new openness to the idea that the role of the state should be to assure the welfare of the citizens, not simply to create an environment within which business can prosper. This is the essence of the NDP's social democratic approach ...

The NDP campaigned on the populist terrain of "fairness" and compassion "for ordinary working families". But the traditional social democratic stand of increased government services financed by fairer taxes seemed to find new life in post-Free Trade Ontario. [The NDP's] promise to introduce "a minimum tax on corporations and new taxes on large inheritances and real estate speculation" addressed the growing concerns of Ontarians that throughout the last decade the social wage of working people has been declining while corporate profits continue to soar. A strength of the NDP campaign was its ability to address the tax issue in a progressive and anti-corporate fashion by focusing working people's anger about taxes onto the terrain of social justice.

The result was an NDP victory in Ontario with elected representatives overwhelmingly from the labor and progressive movements. As bernard describes, of the 73 Members of the Provincial Parliament that make up the newly-elected NDP government, 27 are trade union activists and 19 are women. They are steel workers, pulp workers, public employees from municipal, provincial and federal agencies, and union staff. It rather fits the real meaning of the description, "for the people, by the people". Not a banker in their midst, and only seven lawyers, as one Canadian economist lamented.

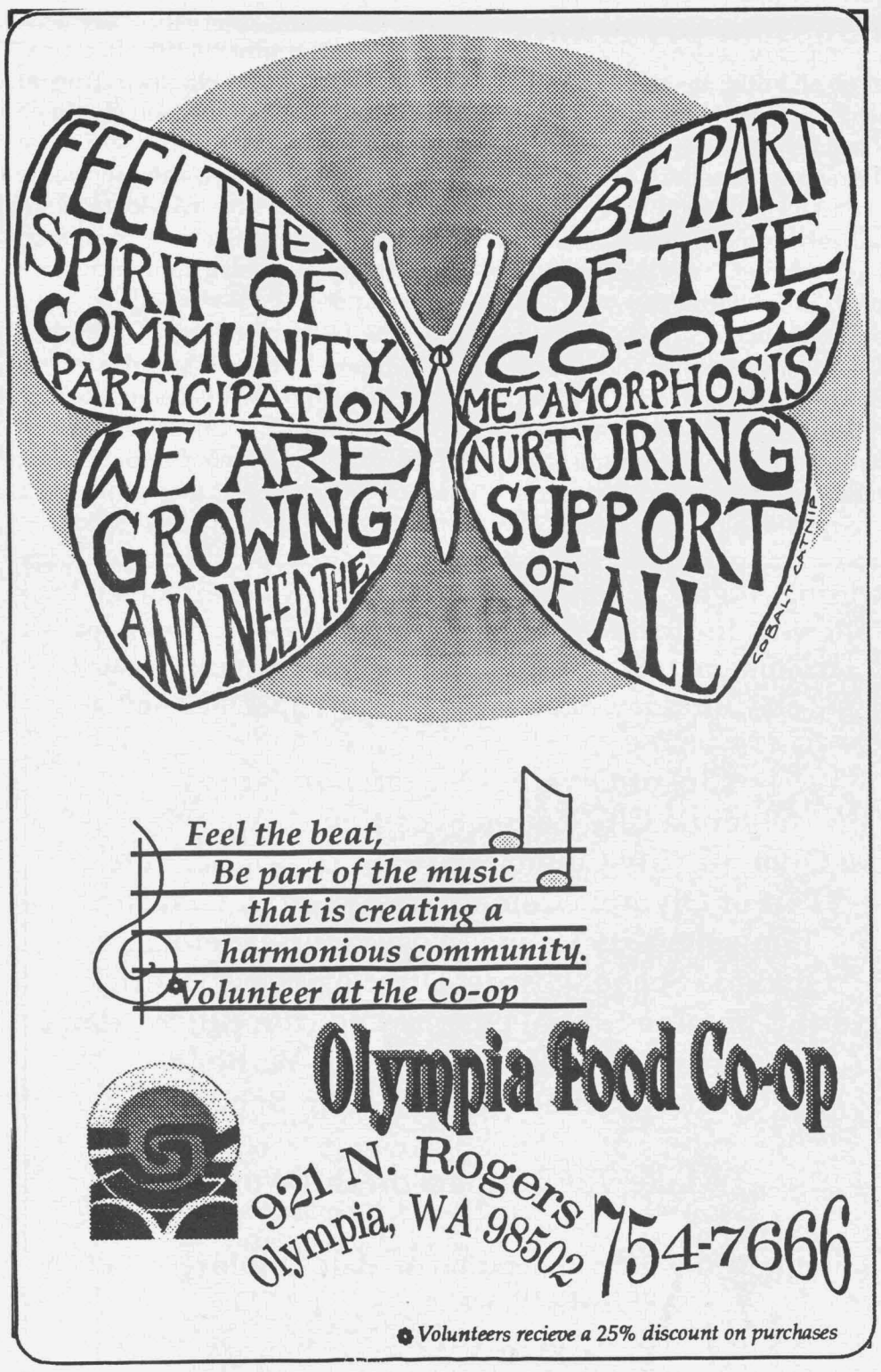
A U.S. Third Party?

It is clear enough that we desperately need a viable progressive "third party" in the U.S. As Bernard points out, in the U.S., the Democrats know that they can ignore the demands of labor, minorities, women, and other progressive groups because these people feel they have no alternative to the Democrats. So progressives are forced, over and over again, to vote "lesser of evils" politics and end up with the "evil of lessers".

A progressive third party might have emerged from the Rainbow Coalition of Jesse Jackson had he not destroyed it as a democratic grass-roots-based organization in order to further his own political career within the Democratic Party. A new kind of mass party is needed in the U.S., different not only in its politics but also in its functioning. Bernard emphasizes this point with the example of the NDP.

Central to political cohesion in the NDP is the concept of a membership party. The Democrats, and indeed, even the Republicans are not political parties by any meaningful definition. While accountability of elected members continues to be an area of tension within the NDP, few NDPers would trade the discipline of a party with a program, membership, internal educational functions, and actions beyond electoralism for the party registration system in the U.S.

The new government was elected as a result of years of diligent work by thousands of community-based

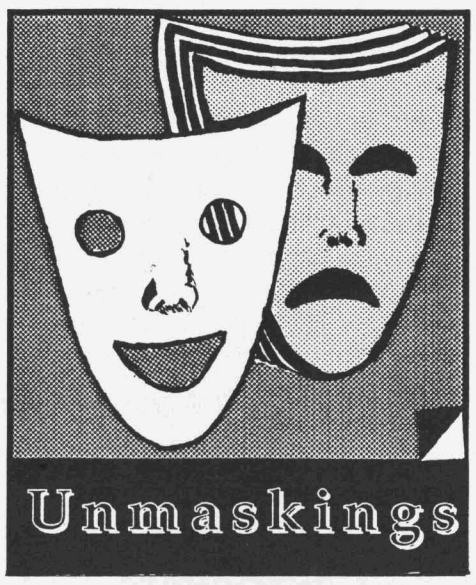


activists who risked being marginalized by building a "third party". In the words of U.S. labor leader and socialist Eugene V. Debs, they decided that it was better "to vote for something they wanted, and not get it, rather than vote for something they didn't want and get it."

Finally, the decades-long experience of the NDP shows that disciplined parties don't necessarily have to win elections in order to win reforms - even in opposition, the NDP was able to influence the ruling parties and get programs implemented. As Bernard further explains, beyond winning and losing elections, one of the most important things that parties do is help to set the political agenda in a country. Political parties help define what is considered a legitimate political issue, how politics are conducted and what relations and conflicts may be resolved through the political process. For the labor movement in particular, the NDP, as labor's political arm, assists labor in shaping and putting forward its concerns and making them part of the national agenda. In contrast to its "special interest" status in the U.S., the labor movement in Canada is able to widen the sphere of issues and concerns that should be politically addressed.

In addition to helping shape the national political agenda, the NDP is a political coalition which provides a permanent structure for labor and other progressive groups, such as the women's movement, environmentalists, minorities, students and the peace movement to work together. While there is constant tension within the party rooted in the very different organizational practices and beliefs of groups and individuals affiliated with the NDP, it serves as a vehicle for organizations to work together politically, to influence each other, and enhance mutual dialogue, at the same time providing the necessary pressure and cohesion to keep these disparate groups together.

Dave is a regular columnist for WIP and he distributes in Seattle.



Up In The Morning And Out To School . . .

Ron Jacobs

A few years ago, Angela Davis gave a lecture entitled "The Myth of the Black Rapist". In the talk Ms. Davis used statistics and a convincing argument which proved this myth to be just a myth. Speaking to the U.S. white man's fear of the supposed sexual prowess of the Black man, Ms. Davis showed how, along with a variety of other misrepresentations, the "myth of the Black rapist has been methodically conjured up whenever recurrent waves of violence and terror against the Black community have required convincing justification." (A. Davis) It is not only men who believe and perpetuate this myth. Most of us do. That is why, despite statistics that show most white rape victims are raped by white men, the legal equivalent of lynching in the courts and media of African-American men continues. With such a dynamic in place, fear of the Black man remains the societal standard.

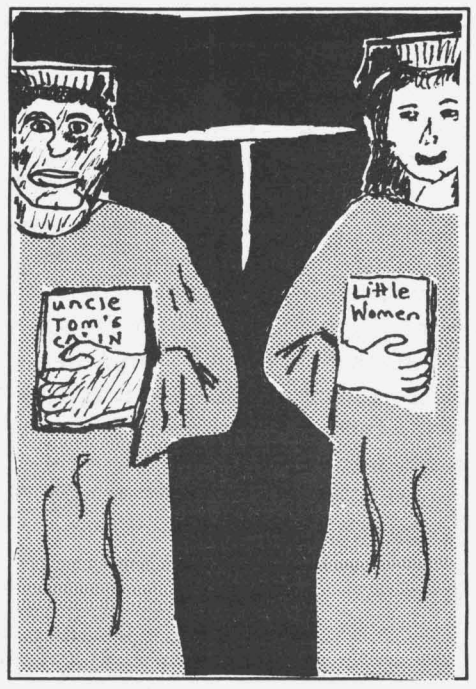
In Detroit, community activists, scholars, and others have designed an educational program designed to save the Black male from physical and social extinction. Similar programs have been implemented in Baltimore, Florida, and Milwaukee, as well. This program requires the temporary separation of those students from others, male and female. It is the program's intent to teach and affirm African-American culture, not to discriminate against women. Unfortunately, most young African-American males only awareness of any aspect of their culture is their interaction with the drug-ridden culture of the streets and its negative portrayal on racist TV cop shows. The National Organization for Women (NOW) is suing the Detroit school board and the program's designers for sexual discrimination.

It seems to me that NOW is missing the point. Separation, in this case, does not equal discrimination. It is not one program designed to provide special educational needs to African-American males that discriminates against women. It is the educational system itself. Just as the educational system programs African-American males to fail, it also programs young females to accept their second-class status. In the same manner that the myth of the black rapist denies the racism and sexism of the greater society, so does the NOW attack on the Detroit program deny the greater inequality of a society which makes such schools necessary.

Just as the educational system programs African-American males to fail, it also programs young females to accept their second-class status.

Equal education exists only on paper. Any teacher who's taught in both inner-city schools and suburban districts can tell story after story concerning the availability of supplies and special assistance in wealthier, primarily white districts, and the lack of such necessities in poorer, primarily non-white inner-city schools. (Rural districts in depressed areas are exceptions to this.) NOW should join with the Detroit program's supporters and challenge the entire school system, not a program designed to help a group of U.S. citizens even more maligned and disenfranchised than NOW's constituency — the African-American male.

Divide and conquer is the ruler's game. We can not allow ourselves to join in such a game. Instead, we must develop a movement which includes in its program a demand



for quality, people-oriented multicultural education. A movement empowered with that mission would, by necessity, demand a reordering of spending priorities and a redefinition of what constitutes liberty and justice for all. That is part of what the teachers' actions in Washington and elsewhere were about last spring. It is also part of what the Detroit program is about. It's what the anti-war and anti-racist movements are about, too. And it should be what the women's and labor movements are about. We are all in this together. And that's the only way we can change it. Solidarity....

For more info on the movement for progressive public education subscribe to

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Ron is a regular columnist for WIP.

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Boycott:
Noxell and Estee Lauder Products
Called by Second Amendment Foundation

Zachary D. Lyons

The Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) has called for a boycott of both Noxell and Estee Lauder products as a result of the two cosmetic giants' contributions to anti-handgun initiatives in Maryland and California.

The boycott, announced in a May 1,1990 press release issued by Sonny Jones, SAF Director of Women's Affairs and editor of Women Guns magazine, was prompted by the 1988 donation of $20,000 by Noxell to the Maryland Handgun Ban, and the 1982 gift of $5000 by Estee Lauder to California's Proposition 15.

"Women have struggled to come to terms with the violence that surrounds them in today's society. Many have chosen to arm themselves. For a company that sells products designed to enhance a woman's appearance while donating money to enact legislation that would prevent that same woman from exercising the right to choose the most effective means of self-protection available is thoroughly reprehensible," charged Jones in the release.

The Boycott Monthly (BM) received a brief letter from Rebecca C. McGreevy, Senior Vice President for Public Relations for Estee Lauder, with a form letter attached which responded to the SAF boycott. She requested we reprint in its entirety. It reads as follows:

"The organization to which Estee Lauder gave a small amount of money does not wish to deny American citizens their constitutional right to bear arms. Instead, what it wishes to do is deny arms only to people who have criminal records by delaying their ability to purchase arms on an immediate basis. By requiring people to identify themselves properly, so that handguns do not fall into the possession of people who have recently been released from mental institutions, or jails, innocent people will be protected from possible victimization.

"Everyone has a right to his or her opinion. We very much respect the opinions of others as we hope they respect our position."

California Proposition 15 did not call for a waiting period for the purchase of handguns, but instead called for a ban on all future sales of new handguns. A waiting period was already part of existing California law.

James J. Schwartz, Manager of Public Affairs for Noxell, wrote the following in his response letter:

"Frankly, we are disappointed to see any misunderstanding still exists about Noxell Corporation's decision four years ago to support dialogue surrounding the 1988 gun ban (HB 1131) controversy in the state of Maryland.

"At that time, we communicated the fact that the one-time financial gift [to Citizens for Eliminating Saturday Night Specials] was made without any decision to choose sides. We believe that every voter deserves to learn abou tboth sides of each issue. Our gift helped ensure voters received the opportunity to hear both sides of the issue around the 1988 proposed gun ban. We have not been involved in any subsequent gun issues nor do we plan any future involvement."

According to Jones, Noxell's letter is suggesting that CEO George Bunting gave away $20,000 of his firm's money to the gun-ban forces because he felt that the pro-gun lobby had a spending advantage in the 1988 Maryland campaign. SAF admits that the pro-gun lobby out-spent the gun-ban side $6.6 million to $770,000, but SAF charges that the gun-ban expenditure does not include "an open account with some of the state's major newspapers, ...the free services of Coretta Scott King and Sarah Brady, ...the taxpayer-paid services of Maryland's Attorney General and his staff; Baltimore County Police officers, who campaigned for the ban using departmental resources; Maryland State Police officers, who were frequently seen in attendance at pro-gun ban events while on duty and in uniform, but specifically denied the right to participate in NRA activities off-duty unless they hid their police affiliation; and the Maryland Transit Administration, which gave free space on buses for gun ban ads."

If you are somehow empowered through the use of cosmetics to be better, etc., should you not be able to take that new self anywhere, any time, etc.,—in short, to be all you can be, even though that decision might include arming yourself."

"From all outward appearances, it seems that Bunting made the Noxell donation to curry favor with Governor William Donald Schaefer," added Jones.

Ultimately, whether or not the two companies are being completely open and accurate about their involvement in the gun ban efforts, to SAF, the issue remains the same. In the words of Gun Week editor Peggy Tartaro:

"Cosmetic companies sell images of women who are 'better' for having used the product. They are told their lives, appearance, lifestyle, etc., will improve with the use of these products. To then be told to hide their improved selves away for fear seems to us a wrong-headed approach, harkening back to the bound foot era. If you are somehow empowered through the use of cosmetics to be better, etc., should you not be able to take that new self anywhere, any time, etc.,—in short, to be all you can be, even though that decision might include arming yourself." SAF is calling for the two firms to stop making donations to anti-gun efforts, and until that happens, Jones says, "the boycott will continue indefinitely."

The boycott targets all Estee Lauder, Inc., product lines, including Clinique, Prescriptives, and Aramis for men, and all Noxell Corporation product lines, including CoverGirl Noxema, Clarion, Raintree, Lesstoil, and Navy perfume. Noxell is a Procter & Gamble company.

For more information, or to express your concerns, contact:

Second Amendment Foundation Women Guns magazine 12500 NE 10th Place Bellevue, WA 98005 206-454-7012

Evelyn Lauder, CEO Estee Lauder, Inc. 767 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10153 212-572-4200

George Bunting, CEO Noxell Corporation 11050 York Road Hunt Valley, MD 21030 501-624-7927

The Boycott Monthly is written by Zachary D. Lyons and published by the Center for Economic Democracy (CED), PO Box 64, Olympia, WA 98507-0064.

The Love Connection
By Matt Love

Interviewing trendy intellectual Camille Paglia in the September issue of Spin magazine, reporter Celia Farber muses, "You're got the conservatives backing the freedom fight in Eastern Europe and the Baltics, and the liberals trying to police people's use of language. Don't we need to start over?"

In mainstream American political life, the difference between conservatives and liberals is mainly tactical; the conservative wants to bomb the villain of the week, whether it's Saddam, Noriega, or Ortega; the liberal wants to strangle him with sanctions. The idea that American "national interest" should not take precedent over the self-determination of other people never comes up. The role of the true progressive is to back the freedom fight all over the world, while opposing the expansion of capitalist exploitation. The perception that we are whiny word police, rather than activists involved in vital issues of the day, is troubling. It trivializes our actions and aspirations, and we should take a hard look at ways we could be perpetuating this image.

Recently I was handed a pamphlet titled, "Guidelines for Reporting and Writing About People with Disabilities". There is probably not an area in the human condition where the language has been more tortured than in dealing with people with disabilities, presumably to try to keep other people from turning descriptive terms for disabled people into insults. "Idiot, Imbecile, and Moron" used to be medical terms for degrees of retardation. The word "retardation" itself- was used when I was a kid, and fell out of usage when children started calling each other "retards". "Special Education" was another term that was used. Quickly, the epithet "Ed" was invented. Let's face it; our political correctness can never keep pace with other people's cruelty.

The pamphlet makes a game effort, though, giving guidelines for a range of physical and mental conditions. For example, "do not refer to people under 4'10" as dwarfs or midgets. Use person of small (or short) stature". The book notes "some groups prefer 'little people'." I thought that was a little odd, but I figure if that's what they want to be called, who am I to disagree? The authors of the pamphlet have no such reservations; they insist "that term implies a less than full, adult status in society," and so will have nothing to do with it.

I have a friend who majored in journalism in college; he has cerebral palsy. He tells me he always liked the word cripple; as a writer, he admires it's economy; it's short, and to the point. On National Public Radio not long ago, an author, left paraplegic from a car accident, expressed the same preference. To demonstrate our political correctness, we must ignore their preferences, and use euphemistic and nonsensical terms such as "differently abled".

I've heard from sensible, reliable sources that some Jewish people have a problem with the use of illustrations of Swastikas and the word "fascist" in Works in Progress articles and graphics. I would certainly be disturbed if we used them to show approval of Hitler or Nazism; however, we have never done that. I've heard two other reasons why people might find this offensive.

One; it dilutes the meaning of the word or symbol to use it in a casual manner.

I've refrained from the use of the swastika in my graphics, as I've always thought it was too cheap and easy; a trite symbol for evil. Similarly, I don't find the word "fascism" fitting very comfortably into my vocabulary.

However, I would have said the same about the word say "Imperialism" 10 years ago; when people used it to describe the United States, I felt a little embarrassed; I regarded it as a carelessly tossed around rhetorical excess. Now, I see it as the correct and precise word to describe U.S. foreign policy.

Perhaps the word "fascism" should fit more comfortably in my vocabulary. The slaughter in East Timor by the Indonesian government with the aid and blessing of the United States has been going on for many years; ask the victims of this genocide if it isn't fascism. The U.S. government encouraged China to support Pol Pot to keep the pressure on Vietnam; hasn't he been accurately described as fascist? Of course, the U.S. support for him is never mentioned. The governments of most Central and South American countries within the sphere of U.S. influence are fascist in nature. The native people of this land might not find "fascist" an inaccurate word for the U.S. government. (I'll note in passing that seems to me that the issue progressives need to be most concerned about is not whether you call the original North American inhabitants "Indians, Indigenous People, Amerindians, Native Americans", or whatever. The real issue is that when Europeans first arrived on these shores, there were 10,000,000 to 14,000,000 people here. By the turn of this century, there were less than 200,000. Put in coarse terms, this is a genocide on a scale that would make Hitler envious, both in terms of the actual number killed, and percentage of the total population exterminated. This is what Political Correctness is really about; the restoration of history). Much of our Secret Police apparatus was created and staffed by Nazis (yes, real Nazis), and our space program was too, of course.

While it is true that domestically we enjoy a great deal of freedom, and protection of those freedoms is written into the law, our foreign policy can honestly be described as fascist, and if people became moved to use words and symbols labeling the US fascist during the Gulf Slaughter, it was our government's behavior that moved them to do so.

The other reason given is that the symbol in itself is so rife with association with unspeakable evil that it is offensive in any context. I'm reminded of the amusing and Dadaistic posters somebody posted around Evergreen last year; a picture of Adolf Hitler with the caption, "Vegetarian of the Month". This drew a heated response from acting President Les Purce, in the form of a letter to the editor of the Cooper Point Journal. He said that any portrayal of Hitler is innately offensive. I think this line of thinking is counterproductive.

It seems to me that if you hate and fear a symbol or words, you give it power, and allow it to control you. Gays and Lesbians have taken cruel epithets and turned them into ironic badges of pride; words such as "queer" and "dyke". By claiming those words, they've gained power over them.. They have taken the symbol Nazis sewed onto their clothing in the death camps to identify them, the pink triangle, and claimed it.

T.C. Rainbow Coalition Gives Dual Endorsement In Port Commission Race

Thurston County Rainbow Coalition has made a dual endorsement in the September Primary for the Port of Olympia's Commissioner Race. Jeff Dickison, employee of the Squaxin and Andy Jackson, employed by the Office and a Port Commissioner candidate in the 1987 race were each given an unanimous endorsement by the Endorsement Committee.

The following are the written responses submitted by both candidates about how they would personally incorporate the TCRC's Principals of Actions into the position of Port Commissioner.

Jeff Dickison

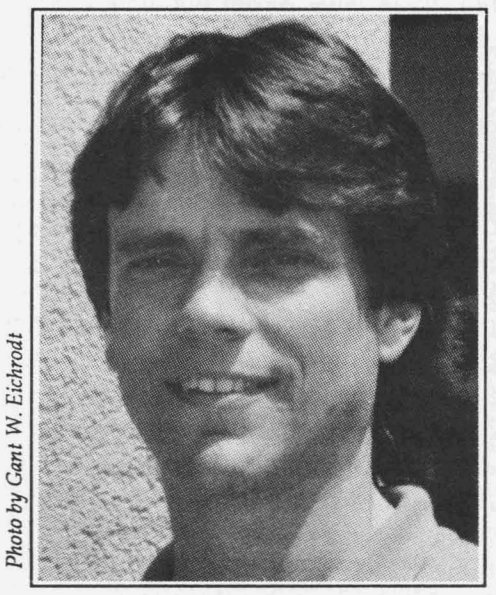
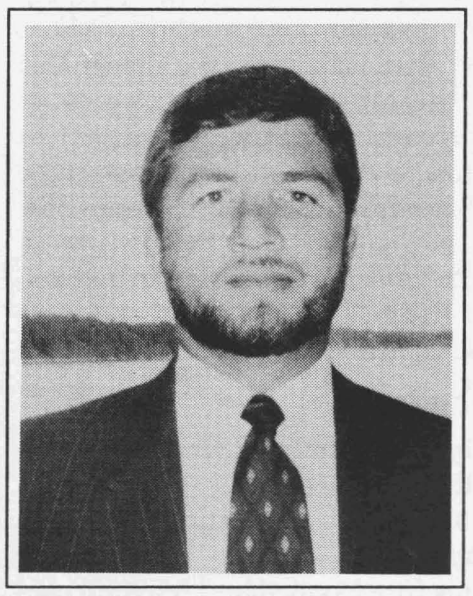


Photo by Gant W. Eichrodt

As a representative of the Squaxin Island Tribe, my employer, I testified at a public hearing on the Port Executive Director recruitment process that the Port of Olympia should consider minorities and women in their search to fill the position. The Port, like any government of the people, must take an active role in recognizing and promoting the values of diversity in our community . This presents a particular challenge for the Port due to its past philosophies and problems. The best way for the Port to respond, and indeed a position I would strongly advocate, is to open its processes to public participation. The public is the greatest repository of creativity and the energy to pursue change that is available in our social and political communities. By opening the Port's planning and decision making processes to the public, I believe I will best be able to establish the dialogue necessary for effective communication and a free exchange of information. The Port and the people of this community will greatly benefit from an infusion of new ideas and the flexibility needed to respond to all concepts and proposals that are born from public participation.

The Port that I envision would be responsive to environmental concerns as well as economic concerns. I would encourage an approach to Port management that demonstrates a productive and beneficial contribution to the community. The Port needs to assist this community in achieving the goals of a cooperative, sustainable, and environmentally responsible society. I bring as qualifications to this job, my scientific training to ask questions and establish the best methods of determining answers to those questions. These answers are never static, but are always reviewed by people with other perspectives and new questions. Thus, we shall move forward, always utilizing the best available information from all sources to guide our public policy decisions. It is on the basis of these values that I have chosen to invest my time and energy as a candidate for public office. Thank you.



Andy Jackson

After reading your "Principles of Action," it's clear that your coalition is a very people oriented group. I'm sure you are also aware that our present Port leadership has not done very well at including our community in it's planning process. We have a changing and growing community and our public officials must be accessible and accountable to all our citizens.

We must bring our Port into the 21st century. Let the people of Thurston County actively participate in the future directions of marine, air, and rail activities within our county.

Our present Port Commission has done very little for the community with our tax dollars. It's time for a change in leadership at the Commission. We must start laying the ground work now for the upcoming years to ensure a community oriented Port.

Did you know:

- We pay approximately $1.8 million a year in taxes for Port activities.
- The Port owns and controls 49% of Olympia's waterfront
- The Port owns and maintains our airport and a vast amount of unutilized land in the south county area
- The Port relies on approximately 90% raw log exports as its shipping cargo.

The Port is a key resource in our community and should work cooperatively with all citizens groups to establish future Port direction.

As your Port Commissioner, I will work to provide marine and people uses with our waterfront. I wish to balance the need to share the waterfront with activities that will enhance our resources and be utilized by our community. My plans as your Port Commissioner include:

- Increased communication between the Port Commission and our community. Conduct evening meetings at locations around the county to allow more citizen involvement.
- Provide land for and pursue small business opportunities to enhance waterfront activities.

Actively pursue any and all available funds to begin the cleanup of the Cascade Pole site.

- Develop, review, and enforce all environmental impact statements that will ensure the preservation of our natural resources.
- Market our Port as a cultural and marine community Port.
- Solicit cargo other than raw logs with a vision for the future.
- Establish 10 and 20 year plans that will support our community's needs and ensure an environmentally safe Port.
- Cooperate with our city/county governments in jointly developing community/recreational areas with Port property.
- Pursue a commuter airline service for our community.
- Develop expansion plans for our Air-Industrial Park that will provide economic development opportunities for small businesses.

As your Port Commissioner, I will work hard at focusing on citizen's concerns on Port issues. I wish to establish a balance between economic development (jobs) and preserving our natural resources. We must focus on the future now. With your support we can move towards a Port that all our citizens can utilize and be proud of. We need new leadership to achieve this goal.

The Olympia Port Commission Needs To Change Its Ways

All candidates interviewed were given the opportunity to directly address the Works In Progress readers.

Jeff Dickison

Years ago, Olympia's dreams of becoming a bustling deepwater seaport might have made sense, but times change. Today the Port of Olympia needs practical vision and solid solutions.

We must straighten out the Port's priorities and involve local citizens in making the port a vital, contributing part of the community. That takes teamwork.

But the port hasn't been a good team player. You'd think the Port's Comprehensive Plan would be consistent with the plans developed by the surrounding jurisdictions, but that's not the case. Where Olympia's plan strictly limits future filling of marine tidelands, the Port's calls for acres of new fill in Budd Inlet - and what for? More log storage?

The Port Commission hasn't listened to the public either. This community has many good ides and expectations for the Port. As I have talked with people, I have heard many proposals the Port should consider -- working with the schools and colleges to create a Marine Education Center, developing a fishing terminal and boat repair businesses that service the recreational and commercial fleets, and building a system to collect and transport recyclable materials in a regional strategy to address our solid waste problems. All too often these ideas have been cast aside by the Port Commission because they are inconsistent with their outdated plan for a deepwater harbor. I will utilize these proposals to direct the Port toward diversified and sustainable business opportunities that generate local jobs.

I will make the Port accountable for environmental protection. We cannot afford to sacrifice public health with situations like Cascade Pole. The Port must conduct an environmental audit of its operations to minimize risks to the public. Economic development and a clean, healthy environment are not mutually exclusive. The Port must be a socially responsible partner in our community, and must make sure that the businesses it recruits share our community's commitment to environmental responsibility.

I believe that we must look closely and creatively at how we can use the Port of Olympia to develop a sustainable economy and protect our important resources. My job as a fish biologist with the Squaxin Island Tribe demands negotiating and management skills on controversial natural resource issues. I've learned respect for differing viewpoints, an appreciation for consensus building, and the ability to shape "win-win" solutions from "no win" situations. I believe we can bring people together to plan for the Port's future. Please give me your vote.

We must straighten out the Port's priorities and involve local citizens in making the port a vital, contributing part of the community. That takes teamwork.

Questions Put to Mayoral Candidates

We on the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition Endorsement Committee could not come to concensus on whom to endorse for the Olympia Mayoral Race. Therefore we are leaving it up to the public to choose whom they consider to be the "ideal" Rainbow Olympia mayor candidate in this month's primary. All candidates were in support of women's access to abortion services and voiced support for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

We now invite you to read answers to a few of the questions asked the candidates in personal interviews on Saturday, August 17th at the new Lacey Public Library.

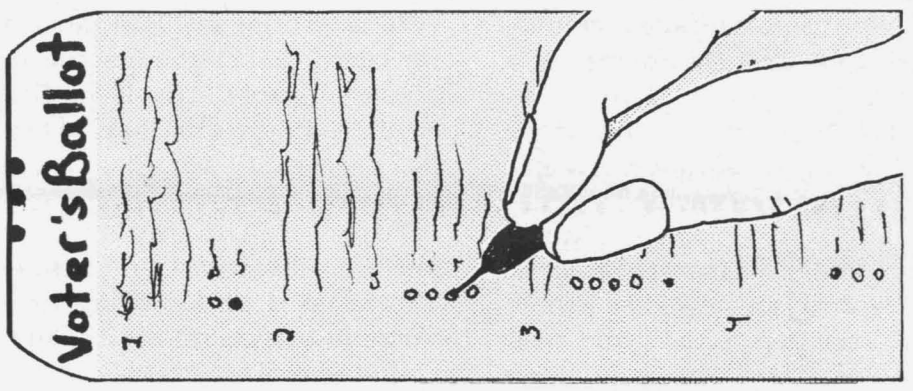
The following mayoral candidates, Bill Foster, Dave Skramstad and Bob Jacobs submitted their applications for Rainbow endorsement and were approved for consideration at the TCRC General Membership Meeting in August.

In recent years the Olympia Police Department has been involved in some very controversial actions from the beating death of Danny Spencer to the actions of its Anti-Gang Squad. Also, in recent years the population of Olympia has become more diverse in terms of race, culture, and income levels and will continue to do so. How would you like to see the Olympia Police Department change to meet the needs of Olympia in the 90's and on into the twenty-first century? How would you help effect those changes?

Bill Foster - You're running into real problems because the Olympia City Council does not have too much power directly. To make answers to any of questions as complex as that needs thorough study of the situation as it arises and if you are an outsider like you are, you're talking about past incidents and all us all candidates are involved in many different things so a limited time to evaluate these things. Now I expect to be a critical mayor. I'll evaluate each situation as it arises. I don't expect anyone to evaluate it to me. If it is a serious problem that faces the public like the police problem then I will address that as I obtain the facts. In other words, I would take a pragmatic approach to try to determine what the will of the people is and if I can and then use my own best judgement as to what sort of public expression or action I would take. And this is true of most issues that you face; there are things that occur moment to moment and have to be answered as the facts arise.

Dave Skramstad - I would like to direct my answer in two areas. One would be in the area of training and the other is in recuiting. I know the police department has no black on its force, for example. It has a couple of representative members of different ethnic groups: Spanish-American or Asian or something of that sort. I believe that the Fire Dept and the Police Dept. and in fact the entire city workforce because it is workforce responding the needs of the citizens should be composed of a demographic mix like that that they serve. Which means that they should openly recuit for those types of people. We used to call it affirmative action and with the changing of names and so forth now I think a lot of cities call it diversity in the workplace, but it requires the affirming of action, that they do make a search for those groups and in those groups in the community, wherever, to get that kind of skill.

Bob Jacobs - You effect change by making policy. There was a briefing for City Council and Mayoral candidates at City Hall a couple of weeks ago where they brought in the various dept heads to talk about things. I was the one who asked the nasty question about how many women do you have on the police force. They said they had about five women out of about 70 which is a good sign, its quite surprising. But they don't have any black people, I think they have one oriental man. They claim to be committed to more diversity on the police force. I think



that is a good idea there's obviously a balance to be struck with confidence. As far as these allegations of abuse of their power I think that that is something that one always needs to guard against in this sort of situation. Police, like the military, really do have unusual kinds of power over other people. And if put into situations where they can become frustrated, where they can become genuninely scared for their own safety and that is a very difficult situation to be in when you've got that kind of power. I would like to see them do more training, they claim now to be doing training on human relations, how to treat people. For instance, to call everyone by some polite term, sir, ma'am. Even if you are arresting someone it's sir or ma'am. Just by using that terminology as you talk to someone you change your behavior. It's not you so and so, it's sir, I have to arrest you, sir. So there are subtle ways they can do it, there's formal training, they can and need to do. I have heard, I don't know the truth of it there is some speculation or allegations that the psychological profile of policemen may be very similar to those of the people they deal with. It's just something I've heard. I don't know if it's true and that's all I'm willing to say but it makes sense to me, like people who need power for personal psychological reasons can be draw to certain occupations.

In the City of Cleveland, the city has a mandate that requires the use of union labor on all city caused projects. Currently the city of Olympia abides by state law which merely mandates that prevailing wages be paid workers. Would you support a mandate requiring union labor on all Olympia City caused projects in both a council vote and implementation as city policy?

Bill Foster - I am favorable to union wage, I think the Republican administration the current Republican administration has denigrated unions, taken the power away from them and that this has seriously damaged the American public. So I am strongly in favor of unions as an opposition element to the type of administration that we have both at the national and state and locally And I would certainly be in favor. Now if the Rainbow Coalition comes strongly out in favor of unionizing and it is the public will to do that then I would follow the public will and try to present that sort of position whether my votes will be effective or not is a other matter. You're asking for the exercise of power and that may not happen. Your views may not be consistant with application, I don't know.

Dave Skramstad - I was of the opinion we did that in Olympia when I was on the city council and that is the thing we should do and when we selected contractors for the Washington Center, for the Olympia Center and for major street projects and so forth that that was a question was organized labor represented in the workforce of the company making the bid so that would be a direct answer to that.

[Ed. Note - According to the Olympia Carpenters' Local, the general contractor for the Washington Center used all non-union labor.]

Bob Jacobs - No, I don't support that because it seems to me that one's right of afilliation is violated by that. There are people who for their own private reasons do not want to belong to a union and I think we need to respect that. If we go about saying well it's only going to be union people then what are we saying to those people who for their own religious or other reasons don't what to be in the union. How can we do that? I just can't square myself with oppression. Now I value unions certainly, I mean, if people who want to belong to unions, and the good that unions have done in this country and continued to do, clearly but the right to affiliate oneself should be inviolate. So I would agree with state law.

With little change in the situation of the homeless in this country and the fact that low-income housing has greatly diminished in the city of Olympia, what policies would you advocate to address this seemingly overwhelming problem?

Bill Foster - I'm aware of the homeless problem because I'm downtown and I see homeless people, I see people under the bridge, living in sleeping bags and no sanitation. I have even put homeless people up in my shop which against the law several times over night because of the extreme cold. It is evident that the homeless situation is serious in this country and we are not getting the federal funds properly distributed to handle it in the best way. There needs to be local knowledge of the seriousness of the problem and somehow get some funds and some volunteers together and so forth to see if you can remedy some of these glaring, you might call them crimes in a way to leave these people in their circumstances.

Dave Skamstad - I believe the current city council has again missed the boat in putting priorities on things. They are putting priorities higher on other things than they are on low-income housing. I think the community, the city council could set the pace to have a real good program in place and again whether is the old community center or the old fire station on the West side or whether its something like McKinley School which was just destroyed this week, I think, the people own those buildings and should have a voice of how they can be put into use by the homeless or by low-income people.

We need to expand the low-income housing that is available. One of the things I have always favored is a permanent downtown population and I think that that is one area where we could make an impact.

I've met with the home builders and contractors and told them what they need build to instead of Street of Dreams homes that are 24 and 28 hundred square feet, they need to take another time of the year and put up a Street of Reality and build homes that would house a nice little family or retired couple. I believe they can built and be built just like they were after WWII where the small bungalow but its home and they can start there.

Bob Jacobs - The problem with this issue as I see it is that it is too easy for politicians to make glib statements about it cause they know damn well they can't do too much about it. We don't control minimum wage, we don't control how much people get for welfare, that's state and federal government. So there are pieces of this puzzle that we can't control and therefore I hesitate to make any great promises like some of other people do. But we should clearly continue to use whatever federal and state

aid that is available to get people housed, that we should give whatever moral support we can to the private organizations that do a darn good job.

I would also want to have a citizens' committee to look at this thing and look at real solutions and real definitions so that we know what we talking about, we know how much things cost and we know where the money is going to come from. But I refuse to tell anybody that is an easy one and I've got an answer for you. It's not that kind of a problem, as I understand it, I wish it were. So, no glibness. If you're looking for glibness, you've got the wrong guy.

Among the cities of Thurston County, Olympia enjoys the best tax base. This is looked upon somewhat enviously by neighboring jurisdictions and can promote unchecked development in neighboring towns as they compete to supply services in their communities. Given the failure of the Thurston County Charter with its potential for county wide master planning, would you work towards some cross-jurisdictional master plan or do you have another solution you would offer? How would you involve the public?

Bill Foster - You're talking to a neophyte because I haven't been involved in interrelationships with county, state, and local governments. I think that the City of Olympia, I haven't really investigated it, but I have a feeling that the City of Olympia is being taxed more heavily than other communities because of the fact that it is a capital city and they want to keep up with the Joneses. There is a ideal situation for exploitation because of that growth outlet and the chance to make a good buck out of it and this has to be watched. Development and growth should be carefully managed in the interest of the public and the county has a whole and I think the working with other entities like county government and maybe the state should be cooperatively done.

Dave Skramstad - Olympia does have the greatest sales tax collection, in fact, Olympia's sales tax collection exceeds all that is collected by all the cities in the county and Lewis and Mason Counties put together. We are wealthy and we are envied perhaps by the others. I think that my record shows that I'm very much in favor of regional planning, I'm very much in favor of regional support for things that relate to that even now. I would very much support a metropolitan parks district which would involve the whole county. I would build on the things that have already been successful region wide. The Medic One Program, Intercity Transit, for example. Any of these city/county programs whether its Lott or anything that is working well right now, I'd amplify on it.

Bob Jacobs - Yes, there should be some sort of an interjurisdictional master plan. I think we will be having that thrust upon us by the new growth management act whether we like it or not. That statement, who ever wrote it, is right on. You can't provide a reasonable level of city services if you have all residential houses because it just doesn't get you the base. You need some industrial or commercial kind of properties that you are also getting taxes from to provide your basic services. So communities do compete for those and that does lead to lousy land use decisions and so we have a lot of empty commercial property on the Westside and yet people are building more. It's inherent in our governmental structure that that will happen. There are some ways of handling that, the way that it is now is all three communities are going to devote too much land to commercial and they are going to compete in ways that are bad for their communities. You get a big outfit like Costco wants to come in and Costco says "We'll put it in your town, if you give us this break, if we don't have to whatever it is with your zoning code. Give us some kind of a variance." Then go to Tumwater and say "Olympia offered us this, would you like to give us some more?" Communities can agree that the additional taxes off of any new commercial property in the whole will be split—that's one way. These are the kind of things that need to be done and are the kind of things I would want to look into.

Jacobs Promises Support for Principles of Action

Bob Jacobs

Dan Taylor provided me with the 16 "principles of action" that the Rainbow Coalition adopted two years ago. By coincidence, these are the principles that I have striven to

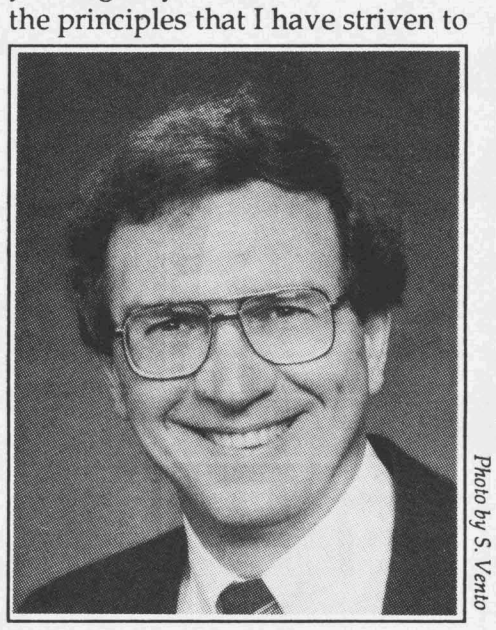


Photo by S. Vento

abide by in my professional work as a public policy analyst and in my civic activities such as Beyond War, the Olympia Parks Advisory Committee, the Olympia Tree Board and working with the boys in my sons' scout groups.

These principles should guide all of the city's processes, including city council meetings, advisory committee deliberations, and the operation of all city departments.

And as mayor, I would implement these principles. Of particular importance, I would:

-assure that all people who come before the council are treated with respect.

-assure that all points of view are considered by the council.

-emphasize public participation in city government, through neighborhood associations, advisory groups, and other means.

-work to keep the Olympia area liveable for future generations, which includes protecting our environment.

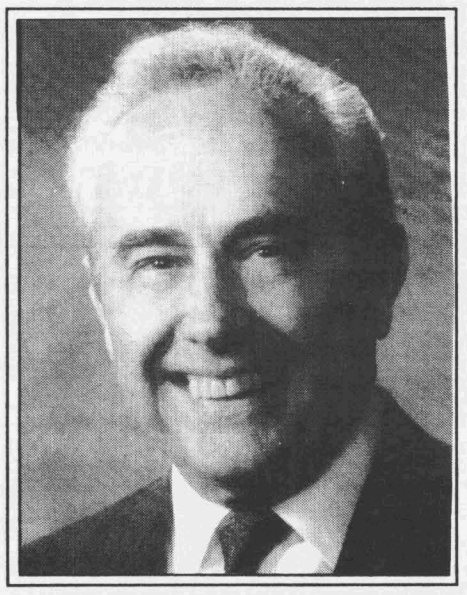
I urge the Coalition and its individual members to become active in city affairs - to help city government understand the importance of these principles and to incorporate them in its daily operations.

I urge Coalition members to read my brochure, which explains why I have decided to run and what some of my values are. I hope that you will feel free to call me if you would like to discuss any local issues with me. My number is 352-1346.

Mayoral Candidate Addresses Rainbow Coalition Members

Dave Skramstad

Thank you for asking me to address your questions, both in writing and before your candidate endorsement committee. I was cheered when contacted to submit this letter to members of the coalition.



I'm seeking to return to the office of Olympia Mayor because I see myself as the best qualified person to lead the city council and the community at this time.

I applaud the principles of the Rainbow Coalition. Similar principles served me through my first term in office. They fit comfortably with the Voters to Return Dave Skramstad, Olympia Mayor and our goal to make Olympia a,more lovable, livable city for all of us. I will carry your principles into City Hall with me just as surely as if a member of the Rainbow Coalition was elected mayor.

On the issue of more open local government, I'm proud of my successful personal efforts to change Olympia from a three-person commission form of government to the more open seven-member council manager form.

I'm equally proud of my leading the effort last year to return the selection of the mayor to you, the voters. I think it important for you to know I have an opponent in this primary election who worked equally hard last year as the chairman of the group trying to dent you that right. I believe the change to a popularly elected mayor will be a big improvement over the current process where the city council excludes the public from the process.

My record in office is full os examples where my contribution has been to open government to a diversity of people and interest. City employee labor organizations back by campaign because I recognized their need for a pay and classification study, comparable worth and fairness - and acted on each need. My efforts cleared the way for a new bargaining unit to form and ensured fair treatment for all. Barriers of all sorts were removed from city hall during my time in office.

I support the concept of free choice for all people in making decisions which are purely personal - and will protect their basic rights to that decision in every way. On government intervening in personal matters, I rely on a quote from one of our first presidents - "That government which governs least, governs best."

When it comes to dedication, commitment or a record of achievements, I'm proud of having lead the way on community improvements like the Washington Center, The Farmers' Market, community development block grants to rescue old homes and neighborhoods, our city's first growth management steps, the Japanese Garden, and turning the city's face toward the waterfront by expanding Percival Landing. I look with pride on the confidence I built in the city's populace and workforce as a mayor they could count on for openness and fairness.

Biographically, I'm a child of the depression; a boy who liked the outdoors more than school; a Vietnam veteran; a husband and now a widower (who believes strongly in death with dignity); a brother, uncle, father and grandfather; a late comer to computers and keyboards; a retired "fixed income" taxpayer; a happy public servant, a mayor.

Ours is a diverse community. We need to seek out new ways to bond that diversity with our plans for the future. We must elect people who can sense and tap the innovative in our people and their ideas, and develop new concepts for growth management and the protection of our environment and natural resources. We need to follow principles like those of the Rainbow Coalition.

I'm asking for your vote in this primary election because, together, we can make a difference. Olympia can be a more lovable, livable city.

(Chateau Ste Michelle Continued)

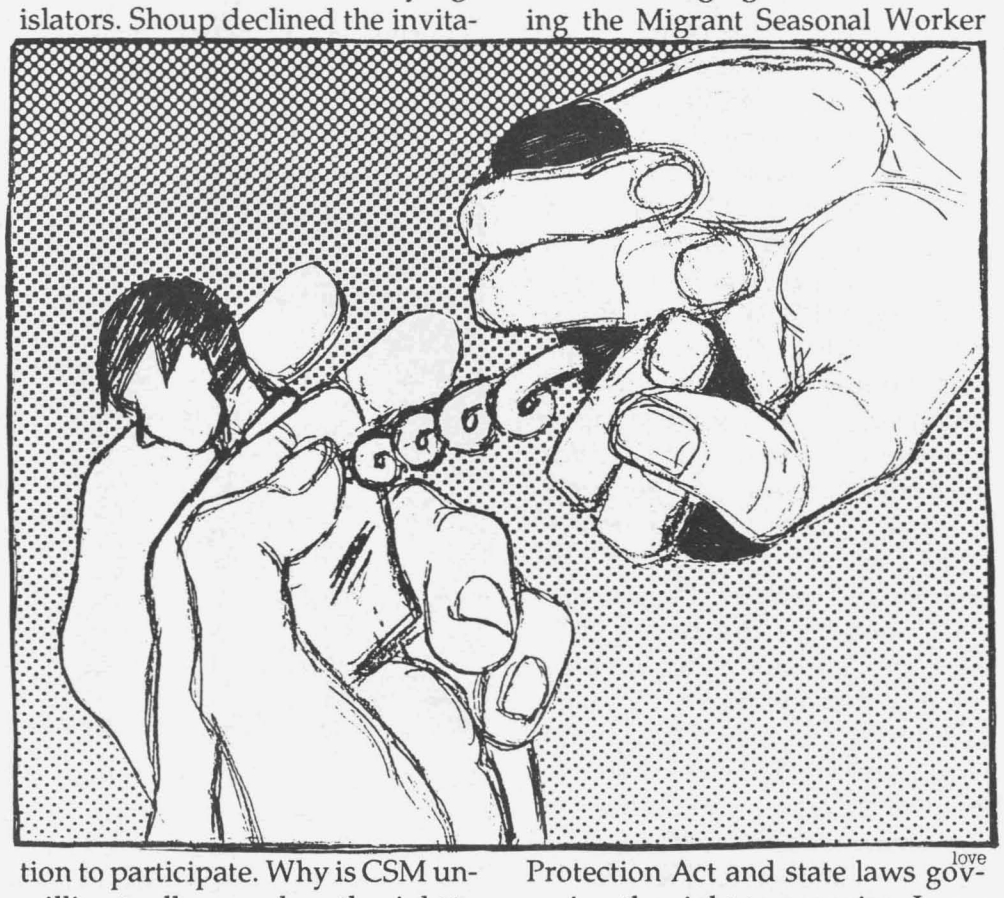
A subsequent article will cover the tactics of the growers to subvert any existing laws in Wa. and the rest of the US, particularly regarding the continuing boycott of California table grapes.

CSM is the largest winery in the NW, and produces 80% of the total wine yield in this state. It is owned by transnational US Tobacco, which controls the wine industry in Wa. and the Napa Valley. Its profits last year were $130.9 mil. and yielded a 25% return to its investors. The profits of Stimson Lane (CSM) were $2.7 mil. in 1990, while farm workers averaged a nickel/hour raise. In 1987, CSM donated $5 mil. to the Statue of Liberty Foundation, concurrently reducing wage/benefits "due to economic necessity". While CSM president Shoup made $300,000 last year, the average Farmworker's wages were $ 10,525, below the poverty level for a family of five.

The growers fuel the public's fear that the price of their food will go up if farmworkers are paid a decent wage. As you can see the situation is actually similar to the post office; the P0 would like for us to take a reduction in benefits while they reward managers with bonuses and waste billions on automation blunders. Can we continue to be silent accomplices, condoning plantation attitudes directed against farmworkers? These attitudes are reflected clearly in the state legislature, where the lawmakers were opposed to raising the minimum wage 3 years ago if it included farmworkers, and tried to block ratification of peoples initiative 518 the following year which did include the farmworkers.

So even though the non-agricultural CSM winery employees are members of the Teamsters Union, Shoup maintains that since farm workers are not covered by the National Labor Relations act, he has no obligation nor legislative vehicle to recognize their desire to be represented by UFWWS. The union has suggested utilizing the Washington State Public Employee Commission which has the authority to supervise elections, or advocates the formation of an independent commission. Furthermore, during the 1991 legislative session the union proposed formulating a Wa. State Labor Relations Act in partnership with the Gov.'s office, labor and key legislators. Shoup declined the invitation to participate. Why is CSM unwilling to allow workers the right to a free election, if the workers are as happy as Shoup claims? Shoup says a union would divide the workers against each other. There is precedent in the case of the HJ Heinz Co. Pressure from church and labor groups forced a collaboration of the company, the Farm laborers Organizing Committee, and growers to increase spending on benefits, and workers would boost productivity. More importantly, no laborers would be considered sub-contractors and therefore ineligible for any company or state benefits, such as workmans' comp.

The latest labor dispute at CSM was triggered by the firing of 10 farm workers registering written complaints about an arbitrary reduction in benefits/wages, and worsening work conditions. CSM continues to discriminate against women, hiring them for shorter periods of time so that they cannot qualify for any benefits. 45 of 55 farm workers requested representation by UFWWS., more workers were fired, and many more were discriminated against by a reduction in hours and other harassment because of their union activities. The Union is charging CSM with violating the Migrant Seasonal Worker Protection Act and state laws governing the right to organize. In response CSM hired an anti-union consultant from California, and tripled the labor force to shorten the work season.



Renewed boycott activities against Stimson Lane wineries are to countermand the latest tactics of the winery to instill fear in the farm workers so they will acquiesce, and discontinue their organizing activities. The boycott supporters are informational leafletting area stores primarily to increase public awareness about the farm workers' struggles. We are asking people to boycott the offending winery products, and sign a petition asking store owners to no longer carry the wines the duration of the dispute. The signatures and letters from the store owners are then sent to the wineries, and to US Tobacco, to apprise them of consumer support. We are asking labor unions, church and activists groups to pass a resolution endorsing UFWWS goals, and to support their efforts by choosing a time slot to leaflet consumers.

Call me at 352-2153, or Jeff Johnson (the labor researcher for the Wa State Labor Council) at 943-0608 to coordinate times. Contact us to schedule a speaker, or to obtain a video on the labor dispute at CSM Winery. Advise store owners of your support of the boycott on their consumer cards. Come to the Labor Day celebration Monday Sept. 2 at Sylvester Park from noon till six to hear Tomas Villanueva, president of UFWWS speak.

It is important to keep pressure on the wineries, but the ultimate goal is to amend labor laws to guarantee farm workers the right to union representation. This year the house passed an agricultural bargaining bill. Because of heavy lobbying from members of the Senate who are also growers, a similar Senate bill never made it to the floor. Next year HB 961 will be introduced which will seek to maintain an independent labor relations board, utilize binding arbitration, maintain secondary boycott rights, and seek a pesticide phase-out schedule. If this bill fails to pass, then an initiative will go to the people on the Nov. 1992 ballot.

Farmworkers have the strength to harvest our food, but they do not have the political power to make changes alone.

Sheila Payne is a union member, National Association of Letter Carriers and a member of the Olympia Movement For Justice and Peace.

WORKERS HAVE RIGHTS TOO!

Please sign this message to Hensel Phelps Construction.

TO: JERRY MORGENSEN, PRESIDENT
HENSEL PHELPS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
P.O.BOX 0
GREELEY, COLORADO 80632-0710

RE: ALL PHELPS PROJECTS IN WASHINGTON STATE

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT I AM ASKING YOU TO STOP THE UNFAIR TREATMENT OF WORKERS ON YOUR PROJECTS IN THIS STATE. LAWS HERE ARE EXPLICIT ABOUT WORKERS' RIGHTS.

I ALSO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF ORGANIZED LABOR BY YOUR COMPANY AS A WAY TO INSURE COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY, WHICH MEANS:

1. PROTECTION OF WORKERS' RIGHTS.
2. FAIR TREATMENT OF WOMEN.
3. EDUCATION OF FUTURE WORKERS THROUGH THE LABOR/MANAGEMENT APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS. THIS STATE'S GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THESE AS THE ONLY PROGRAMS WORTHY OF STATE APPROVAL.
4. THAT LOCAL CRAFT WORKERS WILL GET THE JOBS ON PUBLIC BUILDING PROJECTS OUR TAX DOLLARS HELPED CREATE.

SINCERELY,

Name

Address

City State Zip

(Hensel Phelps Continued)

to Phelps' treatment of them. Documents from the hearing showed how Phelps hired women carpenters to work on the jail project only for as long as it took to report them for compliance with King County's women and minority hiring rules.

This plan to white-wash the track record of policies and practices of a known offender of community standards and work place ethics should speak to us all about the true nature of Hensel Phelps Construction Company. It seems to me that a company that really intends to improve its standing in our community won't resort to public relations high-jinx, but would sincerely try to improve itself.

Anti-worker practices must stop and sincere attention be paid to the laws governing treatment of workers and conditions of employment. Injured Phelps' workers must stop being required to go to the company doctor at Check Medical in Lakewood. State law gives workers the right to choose who gives them medical attention. Phelps workers need to be free from harassment, retaliation and discrimination because they've been injured on the job. That is the charge leveled against Phelps by many injured HP workers. One worker said his HP superintendent coerced the Check Medical physician into sending him back to work early, after the doctor had ordered him to stay off work for three days. This worker has two injured discs in his back now, and will be off work indefinitely.

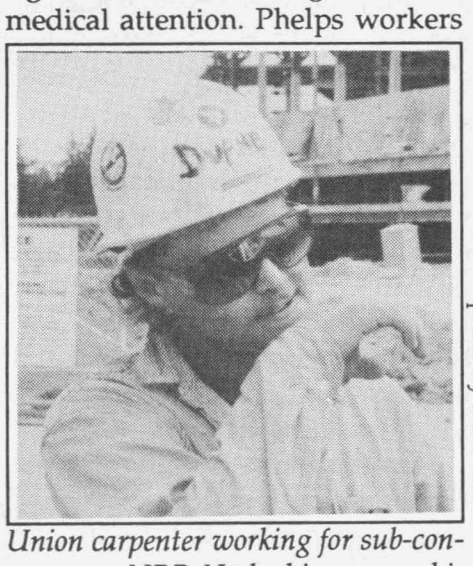


photo by Mark Bean

Union carpenter working for sub-contractor on NRB. Under his name on his helmet, it says "build union."

The union carpenters from this community invite everyone to help in the education of Phelps and its workers about worker's rights and protections. To contact myself or Gary Larsen, call: 754-4038. Handbilling of the Phelps project sites, signing statements protesting worker abuses, and mailing letters to Hensel Phelps in Colorado are planned. See you in the streets. Solidarity.

Mark Bean is a carpenter and unionist who wrote an article for WIP last November uncovering Hensel Phelps' practices. For a copy of that article send $1.50 to Works In Progress PO Box 295 Olympia WA 98507.